

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

Torrance, California,  
January 2, 1924.

As the first Tuesday in the new year fell on a holiday, the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the City of Torrance was held in the Council Chambers at Torrance, California, January 2, 1924, and was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by President Gilbert. The following Trustees were present: Proctor, Smith, Zeller and Gilbert. Absent: Fitzhugh.

The minutes of the regular meeting of December 18, 1923, were read and approved.

A letter from Mr. D. W. Pontius of the Pacific Electric was read by the Clerk, same stating that on account of the tremendous amount of work on hand, it was very difficult to arrange for a meeting down here, and suggested that the local committee meet at his office in the City of Los Angeles,

It was decided that going up to Los Angeles was not a satisfactory way and instructed the Clerk to try and arrange a meeting here in the City.

A communication from the Torrance Water, Light & Power Co. reported the installation of hydrants as follows:

No. 70 - At approximately northwest corner of Lot 6,  
Block 46, on 220th Street.

No. 71 - At approximately south corner of Lot 4,  
Block 46, Plaza del Amo.

No. 72 - At approximately southeast corner of Lot 8,  
Block 51 Cota Avenue.

A second letter disposed

No. 73 - At approximately northwest corner of Lot 1,  
Block 300, Tract 1952.

The Jennings Tent Theatre submitted a written application to operate a tent show for one week commencing Jan. 7th.

Trustee Proctor moved that the above application for permit be granted. Trustee Smith seconded the motion which was duly carried.

The Shell Company of California filed with the Clerk an application for a blanket pipe line franchise to be acquired under the City's Ordinance covering same.

Trustee Smith moved that the application be granted and that the usual procedure in such cases be started. Trustee Proctor seconded the motion which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES; Trustees: Proctor, Smith, Zeller and Gilbert.

NOES; Trustees: None.

ABSENT; Trustee Fitzhugh.

The Blue Print submitted by the Pacific Electric Co. through Engineer Jessup, showing drainage plans, track depressions, etc. was approved on motion by Trustee Smith seconded by Trustee Zeller, and a majority vote.

Mr. Ripey, representing the Torrance Investment Co. asked the status of the application heretofore made for the changing of the zone on Block 117 east of the alley?

Mr. Ripey explained that Mr. McDowell's idea was to build houses that would rent for \$25.00 per month, and thereby meet a demand among factory workers for cheaper rent.

Engineer Jessup was unfavorable to the proposition as there was plenty of space outside the industrial district already specially zoned for such purpose.

President Gilbert was in favor of the rezoning as too many houses could not be built at present for the demand; that 20 or 30 more families would be quite an acquisition for the City.

Trustee Smith said that, while this certain proposition appealed to him, he wanted to go on record as being against interfering with the industrial district as it now stands as this City was founded primarily for industrial purposes.

Trustee Proctor moved that Block 117 be rezoned or the Fire district be changed so as to allow a court to be built according to plans as heretofore submitted. Trustee Smith seconded the motion which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES; Trustees: Proctor, Smith, Zeller and Gilbert.

NOES; Trustees: None.

ABSENT; Trustee Fitzhugh.

Trustee Smith reported that some time ago the Occupation license had been raised from \$3.00 to \$6.00 per quarter on recommendations of the Business Men's Association, for the purpose of securing more police protection and an extra watchman had been employed at that time; that there was about \$450.00 per quarter coming in over and above what was being used for that purpose and he thought that all the money so collected ought to be used in this manner, and moved that the Chief of Police be empowered to add two extra patrolmen to his department. Trustee Proctor seconded the motion which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES; Trustees: Proctor, Smith, Zeller and Gilbert.

NOES; Trustees: None.

ABSENT; Trustee Fitzhugh.

Clerk Bartlett reported for Trustee Zeller that tax money had been received from the County for month of December amounting to \$34,495.12, also that there was no financial report for this meeting on account of not having had time to bring the books up to date.

The City Clerk reported building permits for the month of December amounting to \$62,000. of which \$35,000. was for derricks.

Building permits for 1922 were \$ 333,680.

" " " 1923 " \$1,873,295.

There were 411 new dwellings, one \$260,000. school house, 12 new business blocks and one large church.

At 8:30 P.M. President Gilbert called for protests against the approving of the Amapola district assessment roll as submitted by the City Engineer.

Mr. Howe stated that there was some \$40.00 charged against his property which he was unable to account for.

Engineer Jessup explained all the different modes of assessing property that was being improved, among them the method used in this case, the \$40.00 being accounted for by the easing up of the corner lots and the added proportional amount for intersections, etc.

As no protests had been filed or voiced, Attorney Briney dictated:

RESOLUTION NO. 156

RESOLVED, that the assessment of lots in the Amapola district, as this day presented to this Board by the Street Superintendent and the City Engineer, be, and the same is hereby, approved.

Trustee Smith moved that Resolution No. 156 be adopted as dictated, and that a copy of same be filed in the office of the City Clerk. Trustee Zeller seconded the motion which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES; Trustees: Proctor, Smith, Zeller and Gilbert.

NOES; Trustees: None.

ABSENT; Trustee Fitzhugh.

Trustee Proctor stated that he had been approached by people living in the neighborhood of the little park at the intersection of Arlington and Plaza del Amo looking toward the improving of same; that it would not take a great deal of money and that some money that had been allowed for the improvement of the El Prado park had not been used, and asked authority from the Board to proceed. Estimated cost of improvement was \$300.00.

Trustee Smith moved that the park committee be empowered to improve the above mentioned park. Trustee Zeller seconded the motion which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES; Trustees: Proctor, Smith, Zeller and Gilbert.

NOES; Trustees: None.

ABSENT; Trustee Fitzhugh.

Trustee Proctor moved that the necessary steps be taken looking toward the dedication of the park in front of the school house on which the old booster pump was located, such steps to be taken by the City Engineer and Attorney. Trustee Smith seconded the motion which was duly carried.

Engineer Jessup reported progress on Western Avenue, also mentioned that the Edison Co. had a power line in the street along this Avenue.

Attorney Briney stated that, in the \$250.00 license levy Ordinance, the word "not" had been omitted, evidently an error in his office, also that the Boulevard Stop Ordinance was ready, and that a 20 foot safety zone should be painted in white across Carson Street just east of the school house.

Attorney Briney read:

ORDINANCE NO. 76  
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE  
NO. 20

Trustee Proctor moved that Ordinance No. 76 be approved as read for its first reading. Trustee Smith seconded the motion which was duly carried.

In the matter of a certain petition, heretofore filed, for the rezoning of certain lots on Carson Street, Trustee Proctor moved that such lots be rezoned from Zone 2 to Zone 3, and that the Fire district Ordinance be changed to agree thereto. Trustee Zeller seconded the motion which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES; Trustees: Proctor, Smith, Zeller and Gilbert.

NOES; Trustees: None. ABSENT; Trustees: None.

Engineer Jessup is to make a survey of the needs as to fire plugs and main extensions down along Camino Real and 300 feet south, and report at the next meeting. This matter was brought up by Trustee Proctor who stated that more fire protection in this vicinity was vitally important.

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

AYES; Trustees: Proctor, Smith, Zeller and Gilbert.

NOES; Trustees: None.

ABSENT; Trustee Fitzhugh.

At 9:40 P.M. on motion by Trustee Proctor, seconded by Trustee Smith, and a majority vote, the meeting was adjourned.

Albert H. Bantley  
City Clerk of the City of Torrance.

Approved:

W. H. Gilman  
President of the Board of Trustees  
of the City of Torrance.