

The Benicia City Council meets the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers. Copies of Council Agendas are available in the City Clerk's office on the Friday afternoon before the Council meeting.

**MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR MEETING - CITY COUNCIL
JANUARY 21, 2003**

The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Benicia was called to order by Mayor Steve Messina at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, January 21, 2003, in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 250 East L Street, complete proceedings of which are recorded on tape.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Council Members Bidou, Campbell, Smith, Whitney and Mayor Messina

Absent: None

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor Messina led the pledge to the flag.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA:

Mayor Messina announced that Boy Scout Troup 495 would lead the pledge to the flag.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

Mayor Messina asked if there were any changes to the Agenda.

On motion of Council Member Whitney, seconded by Council Member Bidou, and unanimously carried, Agenda was adopted as presented.

COMMUNICATIONS:

WRITTEN

PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Rod Cameron, Plumbers and Steamfitters Union Representative, supports the creation of jobs and the proposed LNG Project at Mare Island; concerned that businesses will not relocate in this area.
2. Marilyn Bardet, 333 East K Street, stated that the City should address the LNG Project: the project poses health and safety issues; supports the 1999 Mare Island Re-use Plan.
3. Kurt Henke, Firefighters Local No.1186, requested that Benicia not get involved in another cities politics: allow a feasibility study to be done and then let the people vote.
4. Council Member Smith announced that a fundraiser will be held in support of the X-Park on Thursday, January 30, 2003 at the Clock Tower; announced a call-a-thon to be held in support of the School District's endangered positions; stated support for Benicia's involvement in the proposed LNG Project.
5. Peter Landrus, 537 Hastings, stated that it does not seem that the Vallejo City Council wants to create jobs.

Mayor Messina called for a break at 7:50 p.m.

Mayor Messina reconvened the meeting at 7:52 p.m.

CONSENT CALENDAR:

Mayor Messina asked if there were any requests for items to be pulled from the Consent Calendar; Vice Mayor Campbell requested that Items C and D be pulled from the Consent Calendar.

On motion of Council Member Smith, seconded by Council Member Whitney, and unanimously carried, the following items were approved under the Consent Calendar:

RESOLUTION NO. 03 -16 - A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE REVISED JOB DESCRIPTION FOR THE CLASSIFICATION OF LITERACY PROGRAM COORDINATOR

RESOLUTION NO. 03 -17 - A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE REVISED JOB DESCRIPTION FOR THE CLASSIFICATION SERIES OF WATER QUALITY TECHNICIAN

Waive the reading of all ordinances introduced and adopted pursuant to this Agenda.

(END OF THE CONSENT CALENDAR)

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO SIGN THE LOT LINE ADJUSTMENT APPLICATION AFFECTING THE FORMER FIRST STREET RIGHT-OF-WAY BETWEEN N STREET AND O STREET ON BEHALF OF THE CITY

Vice Mayor Campbell requested that this item be pulled from the Consent Calendar; Vice Mayor Campbell did not participate in this discussion due to Conflict of Interest; owns property in the area.

Council took the following action:

RESOLUTION NO. 03 -18 - A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO SIGN THE LOT LINE ADJUSTMENT APPLICATION AFFECTING THE FORMER FIRST STREET RIGHT-OF-WAY BETWEEN N STREET AND O STREET ON BEHALF OF THE CITY

On motion of Council Member Whitney, seconded by Council Member Bidou, the Minutes of February 4, 2003 were adopted on roll call by the following vote:

Ayes: Council Members Bidou, Smith, Whitney and Mayor Messina

Noes: None

Abstain: Council Member Campbell

RESOLUTION URGING THE CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE TO REJECT THE GOVERNOR'S PROPOSED SHIFT OF LOCAL VLF REVENUES AND TO HONOR THE 1998 COMMITMENT TO RESTORE THE VLF

Vice Mayor Campbell questioned the amount of money that was being received; appears to be less than full amount.

Karen Majors, Assistant City Manager, affirmed that the amount was less due to cuts in the State's budget.

Council took the following action:

RESOLUTION NO. 03 - 19 - A RESOLUTION URGING THE CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE TO REJECT THE GOVERNOR'S PROPOSED SHIFT OF LOCAL VLF REVENUES AND TO HONOR THE 1998 COMMITMENT TO RESTORE THE VLF

On motion of Council Member Whitney, seconded by Council Member Bidou, the above Resolution was adopted on roll call by the following vote:

Ayes: Council Members Bidou, Campbell, Smith, Whitney and Mayor Messina

Noes: None

REPORTS FROM CITY MANAGER:

MAYOR'S COMMANDANT'S RESTORATION FUND

Karen Majors, Assistant City Manager, reported that total calendar sales were approximately \$4600; named the top sellers of the calendar; total amount in the fund is just under \$50,000.

REPORTS FROM CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEES:

BI-MONTHLY COMMITTEE REPORTS

MAYOR'S COMMITTEE MEETING

Mayor Messina stated that a very productive meeting was held with Lois Wolk, State Assembly

Woman; discussions were held on the extent and impacts on cities of the State's budget deficit; the impact of future VLF funding; after the State budget is passed cities will have a better idea of future funding; Benicia's reserves are good, but City must have a contingency plan.

ARSENAL RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD

Vice Mayor Campbell reported a difference of opinion between DTSC and the Army Corp of Engineers over the level of ordnance removal necessary; the removal at Tourtelot site is the standard that DTSC would like to see as the level of cleanup achieved.

AUDIT AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

Council Member Whitney stated that a tour of the Corporation Yard was held; Vice Mayor Campbell stated that a possible restructuring of the Business License Fees would be looked into.

BAY CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION (BCDC)

No report given.

NORTHERN AREA OPEN SPACE

Mayor Messina stated that a meeting was held with Neal Hall, Consultant; two issues identified: (1) Should the public be included in voting for proposed projects beyond the Urban Growth Boundary? (2) Reaffirmation of the current General Plan, which allows the uses of churches, quasi public facilities, recreational uses like golf courses and schools; a telephone survey will be conducted with results presented in six weeks.

Vice Mayor Campbell requested that the cost of the survey be monitored and a timeline for the ballot measure be provided.

Heather McLaughlin, City Attorney, clarified points pertaining to the measure, timeline and CEQA requirements if measure is City sponsored; no prior court cases.

SCHOOL DISTRICT LIAISON

Council Member Smith announced that a meeting was held on January 8, 2003; discussion on the possibility of the City and the School District purchasing some items together in order to cut costs; next meeting March 12, 2003; requested a status report on the police investigation of the School District's budgeting work.

SEDCORP BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Vice Mayor Campbell stated that a meeting would be held on Thursday, February 3, 2003 to discuss the future direction of the Board.

SOLANO TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

Council Member Bidou noted the action item in the Board's highlights referring to a funding request for \$3.00 bridge tolls; the City has been placed at the top of a list for \$400,000 in funding to be used toward the Intermodel Train Station, if bridge toll request is approved; money can be used in any way as long as it is for the station.

SOLANO WATER AUTHORITY

Mayor Messina reported that reserves in Lake Berryessa were good; possibility that the Water Authority would control countywide flood control.

TRI-CITY AND COUNTY OPEN SPACE

Council Member Whitney stated that the budget had been ratified; continuing to build consensus on the creation of a Regional Park System.

VALERO CITIZENS ADVISORY PANEL

Council Member Whitney stated that preparations were being made to hold the next meeting; term of one of the members was up and the position will be advertised.

YOUTH ACTION TASK FORCE

Council Member Bidou announced that Cecile Kazemi had been elected as County Drug and Alcohol Advisory Board, Chairman.

Cecile Kazemi stated that youth volunteers were needed, who would like to work on specific projects, for a countywide Youth Group to help reduce rates of alcohol, tobacco and drugs.

Council Member Bidou stated that Youth Programs, conducted jointly by the City and the School District, would be affected by the District's continuing financial problems.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Messina adjourned the meeting at 8:22 p.m.

Linda S. Purdy, City Clerk