

**March 2, 2004**

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  
MARCH 2, 2004**

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. on Tuesday, March 2, 2004 in the City Council Chambers, City Hall, 250 East L Street, complete proceedings of which are recorded on tape.

**ROLL CALL:**

**Present:** City Council Members Campbell, Patterson, Smith, Whitney and Mayor Messina.

**Absent:** None

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

Mayor Messina led the pledge to the flag.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS/APPOINTMENTS/PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS:**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Mayor Messina announced the action taken in Closed Session. He stated that the City Attorney briefed Council regarding the Benicia Harbor Corporation vs. City of Benicia lawsuit. This item will be coming back to Council for further consideration.

Mayor Messina announced openings on the following Boards and Commissions: Historic Preservation Commission, Human Services Fund Board, and People Using Resources Efficiently (PURE). Council will continue to accept applications; however they are looking at the structure of the Historic Preservation Commission and the Design Review Commission. This is in part of Council's efforts to become a Certified Local Government. Until these issues are resolved, the Mayor will not be making an appointment to either Commission.

**APPOINTMENTS:**

None

**PRESENTATIONS:**

**Benicia Performing Arts Foundation:**

Helaine Bowles gave a verbal presentation introduced the 'New kid on the block', the Benicia Performing Arts Foundation. Their grand opening concert will be held on May 2, 2004. They asked for Council and the City's support in their endeavors. She gave all Council Members a membership form to join the Benicia Performing Arts Foundation. The 'Essentials', the Youth Jazz Ensemble, performed a wonderful song for Council.

**Art Exhibit in City Council:**

Biganess Livingstone, local artist, whose art is currently displayed in Council Chambers, stated that there is a very large artist's group located on Tyler Street. The group will have an open house the first weekend in May. The open house is free and fun, with plenty to eat.

**Travis Community Consortium:**

Mr. Jim Curtis presented this item. He gave a verbal presentation on what the Consortium does. He stated that it is Solano County cities coming together to make Travis Air Force Base better. There are currently 5 active duty families, 10 families that work for the appropriate funds personnel, 5 contractors, 194 retired military families, and 441 Department of Defense retirees living in Benicia. Benicia has a stake in what happens to Travis Air Force Base. The 700 families mentioned contribute approximately 10 million dollars annually to the community. Mr. Curtis discussed the military housing issues the Consortium is currently addressing.

Council Member Smith stated when he went to a meeting of the Consortium last month, he got the impression Travis was well positioned to avoid closure. Mr. Curtis clarified Travis' current position regarding a possible closure.

Vice Mayor Patterson thanked Mr. Curtis for keeping Council informed on the current status of Travis. She asked for clarification on the housing issues. Mr. Curtis explained that the Department of Defense is closing military housing on the Travis Air Force Base as a cost savings measure and the military personnel must seek housing on the market in the community.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA:**

Mayor Messina asked if there were any changes to the Agenda. City Manager Jim Erickson stated that the Public Hearing for the Water Distribution System Improvement Project has been moved to the 4/6/04 Agenda.

On motion of Vice Mayor Patterson, seconded by Council Member Whitney, and unanimously approved, the Public Hearing for the Water Distribution System Improvement Project was postponed until 4/6/04.

On motion of Council Member Whitney, seconded by Vice Mayor Patterson, and unanimously approved, the Agenda was adopted as amended.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

**WRITTEN:**

Council received a letter from Mr. Bob Berman regarding the Intermodal Transportation Station Project and his support for the proposed resolution. The letter is on file with the original Agenda packet.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

1. Mr. Bob Craft spoke on behalf of the Valero Citizens Advisory Panel (CAP). Two motions were passed unanimously at the 2/26/04 CAP meeting. Each motion requests action by the Council.

The first motion addresses what the CAP perceives to be a valid requirement to more actively interface the local CAN system to that of Contra Costa County. The CAP asked Council to direct Staff to implement a town assisted policy to proactively advise citizens of all alert conditions that might affect the city. The new policy should be well publicized. The second request deals with the availability of CAP information to the citizens. The CAP recommends the City's website host a page for the CAP. The page would contain at a minimum, the following: The mission of the CAP, a listing of CAP members, with email addresses, the agenda and schedule for each meeting, the minutes of all CAP meetings, all CAP related agreements, information on current CAP related activities. The CAP asked that the Council direct Staff to set up and maintain this web page.

2. Mayor Messina stated that Council could not take action on this item, as it was not on the Agenda. However, Council can direct staff to address issues and put them on a future Agenda.
3. Vice Mayor Patterson requested the requests made by the CAP be put on the 3/16/04 Agenda.
4. City Manager Jim Erickson stated that may not be enough time to address the CAN issue. He requested that Staff be allowed to report back to Council on the requests in 30 days.
5. Toni Haughey - Ms. Haughey stated she wanted to address why John Van Landschoot had not been appointed to the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC). She discussed Mr. Van Landschoot's qualifications for the position. She discussed the 'Pink Palace' (Anderson Hotel), and stated that saving this building cannot be considered 'preservation'; it is building 'recycling', not preservation. She stated that the City needs to get some expertise in to deal with historic preservation issues.
6. Mayor Messina reiterated his position on not filling the slots on the Historic Preservation Commission, and the reasons for taking this position.
7. Steve Chappel, Suisun Resource Conservation District - Mr. Chappel voiced his support for the proposed Resolution (regarding the Intermodal Transportation Station Project) in Agenda item XB.
8. John Van Landschoot - Mr. Van Landschoot stated that he supports Benicia becoming a Certified Local Government (CLG). He stated that he talked with Mayor Messina two weeks ago, and the Mayor stated the process of becoming a CLG should be a quick process. Mr. Van Landschoot stated that the process would most likely not move quickly. He stated that not keeping the HPC at full strength is disrespectful.
9. Vice Mayor Patterson asked the City Attorney if the issue of the delay in appointing someone to the HPC could be discussed in Agenda item XA.
10. City Attorney Heather McLaughlin stated that this would not fall under the Agenda item. This is not what the Agenda item was meant to address. Ms. McLaughlin stated this item would need to be put on a future Agenda.
11. Council Member Campbell had questions regarding all future appointment for the HPC and the DRC. Will all appointments be delayed until the CLG is resolved? Council Member Campbell suggested Council come up with a timetable for the appointments.

12. Vice Mayor Patterson requested that the discussion on CLG be broad enough to include the appointment process for the HPC and DRC.

13. Council Member Smith made the following announcements:

- 50 years ago, the Vallejo Gem and Mineral Society was formed. They will be holding their annual exhibit at the Vallejo Fairgrounds in McCormick Hall on March 13th-14th from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- Council Member Smith congratulated the Young Person's Jazz Ensemble for their excellent performance that evening. He informed Council and the public that such performances are available for hire, as well as other performances. For more information, call 746-1762.

**CONSENT CALENDAR:**

Mayor Messina asked if there were any items to be pulled from the Consent Calendar. Council Member Smith pulled item VB. Mayor Messina pulled item VE.

On Motion of Council Member Whitney, seconded by Council Member Smith, and unanimously carried, the Consent Calendar was approved as amended.

The Minutes of February 17, 2003 were approved.

**RESOLUTION 04-32 - A RESOLUTION APPROVING AUTHORIZATION OF FINANCE DIRECTOR AND REAUTHORIZATION OF ASSISTANT FINANCE DIRECTOR AND CITY TREASURER TO DEPOSIT AND WITHDRAW CITY MONIES WITH LOCAL AGENCY INVESTMENT FUND (LAIF)**

**ORDINANCE 04-7 - SECOND READING AND ADOPTION OF THE FRANCHISE ORDINANCE GRANTING SFPP A FRANCHISE FOR THEIR PETROLEUM PIPELINE PROJECT.**

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

**(END OF CONSENT CALENDAR)**

**Council took the following action:**

**Rejection of claim and referral to insurance carrier:**

Council Member Smith stated that based on the claim, it would appear that the City has a certain amount of liability. However, Staff's position is that there are facts that are in error in the position of the claim. He wanted to explain his vote to reject the claim. The facts in the claim are not entirely accurate. He does think the City has the liability suggested in the claim. He expressed his sympathy for the family of Ms. DeWeese.

On motion of Council Member Smith, seconded by Vice Mayor Patterson, Council approved the rejection of the claim and referral to insurance carrier by the following vote:

**Ayes: Council Members Campbell, Patterson, Smith, Whitney, and Mayor Messina**

Noes: None

**Contract with Code Publishing for the codification of the Benicia Municipal Code:**

Mayor Messina asked City Attorney Heather McLaughlin to clarify the necessity for this contract. City Attorney Heather McLaughlin explained why the contract for codifying the Municipal Codes is necessary. It will bring the Codes up to date, the codes will become uniform, and they will be evaluated for accuracy and content. The City has budgeted \$22,000 for this contract, however, it may end up costing less. The cost for putting the codes on the internet is included in the price. It will take approximately 4 months to complete the codification once the City submits the Municipal Codes to Code Publishing. Mayor Messina stated that he does not object to the contract, but wanted the public to understand why this is necessary.

On motion of Vice Mayor Patterson, seconded by Council Member Whitney, and unanimously carried, Council approved the contract with Code Publishing for the codification of the Benicia Municipal Code by the following vote:

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

Noes: None

**PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

**Water Distribution System Improvement Project:**

Council previously voted to move this item to the 4/6/04 Agenda.

**REPORTS FROM THE CITY MANAGER:**

Report on revised plan to move all three wings of the Anderson Hotel and to utilize the City's parking lot at East 2nd and E Street for temporary (60 days) storage and consideration of General Fund fee deferrals for all three wings:

Mayor Messina excused himself due to a conflict of interest. Vice Mayor Patterson chaired this portion of the meeting.

Assistant City Manager Karen Majors stated the report that was to be presented was pulled from the Agenda. She stated that Chris Tringali and Bill Thomason were trying to figure out a way to recycle/preserve all three wings of the Anderson Hotel. They found that due to the size of the buildings, and the aggressive time frame, it is not possible or cost effective. Mr. Thomason will still be moving the East wing as opposed to the West Wing to his property on E Street. The East wing is already up on blocks, awaiting the move.

Vice Mayor Patterson asked if there was a plan to reuse some of the interiors of the building. Ms. Majors stated that Mr. Thomason will try to reuse as much of the interior lighting, wainscoting, etc. as possible. The remaining interior fixtures will be made available to whoever is interested. Anyone interested should contact Lennox Homes for further information.

Council Member Smith asked if the lobby would be lost in the move. Ms. Majors confirmed that the

lobby could not be saved. Mr. Thomason will create a new lobby on the first floor of the East Wing. Council Member Smith thanked Ms. Majors for her efforts on this project.

**Verbal report on League of California Cities Ballot Initiative- Californians to Protect Local Taxpayers and Public Safety (LOCAL):**

City Manager Jim Erickson stated that the signature gathering on this issue has begun. It started about two weeks ago in various places. This is an initiative petition that would amend the Constitution to require that before Local Governments monies could be used to finance State budget, a vote of the people would be required. Mr. Erickson stated that Council adopted a Resolution on 9/30/03, supporting the Statewide Ballot Initiative. The Measure will not raise taxes. The Measure does not increase the City's budget. The City would not get an additional nickel if it passes. It would give the City a bit more stability. There is an effort statewide to promote this Measure.

Council Member Smith asked Mr. Erickson to clarify if this initiative would raise taxes and if it would protect the City's revenue. Mr. Erickson stated that it would not raise taxes and it would protect the City's revenue. Council Member Smith stated that if anyone was interested in signing the petition, he and Council Member Whitney have them available.

Mayor Messina called for a 5 minute break at 8:30 p.m.  
The meeting resumed at 8:40 p.m.

#### **REPORTS FROM CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEES:**

- 1. Mayors Committee Meeting - Mayor Messina discussed Mega Dairies. He discussed the effects Mega Dairies could have on the City. He discussed the issue of buffer zones. The current thinking is to come up with an overlay district. Council Members discussed various concerns regarding Mega Dairies.**
- 2. Arsenal Restoration Advisory Board - Council Member Campbell stated there was nothing new to report.**
- 3. Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) - Vice Mayor Patterson stated the next meeting is scheduled for 4/29/04 at the Oakland Marriott at 8:00 a.m. Housing Economic Prosperity will be discussed.**
- 4. Audit & Finance Committee - Vice Mayor Patterson stated that at the 2/6/04 meeting they discussed the warrant register review, and had extensive discussion regarding the goals of the Committee. There were financial reports on the Intermodal Transportation Center capital project fund, the Police Station capital project fund. They reviewed the RFP's for the annual City audit. The Audit and Finance Committee unanimously voted to recommend to City Council that no more City funds should be spent on the ITS until there is certainty of payment (see Committee reports).**
- 5. Carquinez Strait Preservation Trust - Council Member Smith stated that this Committee is not currently active. Vice Mayor Patterson provided a brief history of the Trust and the opportunity for leadership to 'reactivate the committee'.**

6. **City Employee Compensation Committee - Council Member Whitney** stated that the Committee had its first meeting on 2/17/04. There was a very good, broad representation at this meeting. They discussed what it was they wanted to accomplish. It was made clear that this Committee is not about negotiations, it is about the exchange of information, what employees concerns are, etc. Council Member Campbell stated they may do a survey to look at how other cities are compensating employees. They may bring in a wages and benefits expert to look at how the City is handling these areas.
7. **Police Station and Civic Center Restoration Committee - Council Member Smith** stated that the Committee met on 2/24/04. They are considering changes to the functionality and size of the proposed building. Discussions are ongoing. The next meeting is scheduled for 3/9/04 at City Hall at 7:00 p.m.
8. **First Street Revitalization Committee - Council Member Smith** stated that he and Council Member Campbell have been attending meetings of the Economic Development Board (EDB). They attended a meeting on 2/25/04. Most of the discussion centered on a process to determine community consensus for City owned property. They will be meeting again on 3/3/04 in the Edna Clyne Room at the City Library at 5:30 p.m. The topic of discussion will be a Business License Tax.
9. **League of California Cities - Council Member Smith** stated that he attended the last meeting on 1/22/04. Much of the discussion centered on the initiative that City Manager Jim Erickson discussed earlier. There was talk about the roll out of petitions that is currently taking place.
10. **People Using Resources Efficiently (PURE) - Vice Mayor Patterson** stated that there was a report from Mr. Craft at the last Council meeting. They have since had a field trip to the Wastewater Treatment Plant and the Refinery. The next meeting is scheduled for 3/9/03 at the Wastewater Treatment Plant.
11. **School District Liaison - Council Member Smith** stated the Committee had a meeting on 2/25/04. Public Works Director, Dan Schiada presented the Safe Routes to Schools. They discussed the possible need to meet sooner than the next scheduled meeting. They will be meeting again in April 2004. Council Member Whitney stated they discussed the issue of the gate at Matthew Turner. He discussed the SCRIP program and its benefits to the schools. Council had extensive discussions regarding the gate issue at Matthew Turner School. The solution to this issue will be costly. Some ideas include building a walkway/bridge or an electronic gate. After much discussion, Council agreed to try and schedule a meeting with the School Board to discuss this topic. City Attorney Heather McLaughlin confirmed that a joint meeting/workshop between Council and the School Board would be legal. City Manager Jim Erickson will contact the Superintendent to request this meeting/workshop.
12. **Sky Valley Area Open Space - Vice Mayor Patterson** asked Staff to confirm a date for a meeting. Scheduling a meeting has been a problem. Vice Mayor gave possible dates of 3/11 or 3/12 for a meeting. Community Services Director, Collette Meunier will confirm a date with Vice Mayor Patterson.

13. Solano EDC Board of Directors - Vice Mayor Patterson stated that the next meeting is scheduled for 3/25/04 at 9:00 a.m. at the Jelly Belly Factory in Fairfield.
14. Solano Transportation Authority (STA) - Mayor Messina stated that they are moving forward with putting a sales tax increase on the November ballot. The money would be used to fund a number of local projects.
15. Solano Water Authority/Solano County Water Agency - Mayor Messina stated that there is nothing to report on, other than the minutes, which were submitted.
16. Sunshine Committee - Council Member Campbell discussed a possible Ordinance addressing the due date that Council should receive the City Council Agenda packets. Council Member Campbell discussed the reasons for the suggested changes. Council needs more time to review the information in the packets. Mayor Messina had questions regarding a recent article in the Benicia Herald regarding this issue. Vice Mayor Patterson suggested letting the Sunshine Committee finish the work on the proposed Ordinance so they can present the complete document to Council for review. Council had extensive discussion on this issue.
17. Traffic, Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Committee - Vice Mayor Patterson reported there was a meeting on 2/5/04. They had a presentation by Staff on the Safe Routes to Schools. STA is conducting a pedestrian survey. Traffic calming measures were discussed. The Committee will be conducting a 'walk-about' in the near future.
18. Tri City and County Regional Parks and Open Space - Council Member Whitney stated that the next meeting is scheduled for 3/29/04.
19. Youth Action Task Force - Mayor Messina stated Council Member Campbell has been having difficulty attending the meetings. He has asked to be removed from this Task Force. Council Member Whitney has volunteered to take his place. It is the Mayor's intention to appoint Council Member Whitney to the Youth Action Task Force at a future Council Meeting. Council Member Smith stated there was a meeting on 2/25/04. There was discussion on the Alcohol, Tobacco, and other Drugs Program. There was discussion regarding the Healthy Kids Survey. There will be a presentation on the 'Every 15 Minutes' Program on 3/30 and 3/31 at Benicia High School. There was a delightful report about the Calvary Church, which is operating a youth activity group on Wednesday afternoons. The next meeting will be in April 2004.
20. Valero Citizens Advisory Panel - Council Member Whitney stated the next meeting is scheduled for 3/25/04 at the Senior Citizens Center. The meetings are now taped, and will be televised on channel 27. The last meeting was very productive. The CAP will be using the City's website to get information out to the community.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Work Program to update the City of Benicia Downtown Historic Conservation Plan:

Collette Meunier, Director of Community Development, stated that as part of last year's budget,

Council appropriated \$75,000 to undertake an update of the Conservation Plan. In February of 2003, there was a workshop with the Planning Commission, Historic Preservation Commission, and the Design Review Commission. The workshop was a brainstorming session to identify ideas for updating the Historic Downtown Conservation Plan and discussing historic preservation activities in the City. The next step is to determine what aspects of the Plan require updating. Staff has identified several areas that could benefit from the update process. Staff recommends that the proposed work plan be discussed in a public workshop at a joint meeting of the three Commissions. Ms. Meunier discussed the details of the suggested work to be done, and the costs associated with the work.

**Public Comment:**

1. **Donnell Rubay 175 West H Street** - Ms. Rubay stated that before we spend the money on Benicia's Historic Plan, if the City chooses to be fiscally responsible, it must determine whether the community wants a historic plan, and if it will be followed. Ms. Rubay had various comments regarding historic property. She stated that Benicia recently lost two historic properties. Ms. Rubay stated that it is not okay, and it is not fiscally responsible to spend money on a historic plan when there is no commitment to follow it.
2. **John Van Landschoot 175 West H Street** - Mr. Van Landschoot stated the City needs to get other people (the community) involved. He suggested that the City get outside assistance in the re-write.
3. **Toni Haughey** - Ms. Haughey stated that she agrees with Mr. Van Landschoot's comments. She does not understand why the City would want to train staff when there are experts out there who can work on this issue. She stated the General Plan tells us that the community does want historic preservation. She is not sure if we need a re-write. Why reinvent the wheel?

Mayor Messina stated that it looks like Staff will spend \$50-60,000 on updating the survey. Ms. Meunier verified that was correct. Ms. Meunier clarified the reasoning for hiring a contractor and having Staff learn from that contractor. Mayor Messina asked why the survey was needed. Ms. Meunier stated that the survey is the tool that is needed to apply both to regulations and the plan. Without that, the process will be more painful.

Vice Mayor Patterson stated that communities throughout the country have figured this same type of issue out. We should be able to use that as a resource tool. She stated that the work on the regulations and the survey clearly need to be done. Vice Mayor Patterson suggested incorporating some of John Van Landschoot's ideas into the plan. She encouraged Staff to work rapidly to get this plan into place.

Council Member Smith stated that in the General Plan survey, presence of historic buildings was named as one of the top ten factors that contribute to the quality of life in Benicia. Although this does not directly support the plan, it does indicate support for a framework that will assure the continued presence of historic buildings. He stated that he thought it was Staff's intention to incorporate professional help in this process. He stated that as this plan unfolds, it should be brought before the Historic Preservation Commission for updates. This way, the public will know what is going on. He was concerned with how the Staff Report delineates how much money is being spent on each task. It

shows how much Staff resources are going to be necessary, and how much it will cost. Staff is already in the budget. This is using up some of the \$75,000. Staff's costs should not be charged out of the \$75,000. Otherwise, this is a good step in the right direction.

Mayor Messina asked if this proposal had been presented to the Historic Preservation Commission. Ms. Meunier stated that it had not. Mayor Messina stated that the HPC should be allowed to formally address the plan. This is a very important concern that should be addressed.

Vice Mayor Patterson stated that time is of the essence. The initial workshop was held over one year ago. Rather than drag this out, the minor adjustments that Council has suggested that should be incorporated. She stated she was confident Staff could incorporate the changes and move forward with the plan.

Council Member Campbell asked Ms. Haughey how the HPC feels about another survey being done.

**Public Comment:**

- Toni Haughey - Ms. Haughey stated that she does not think the HPC is opposed to another survey.
- Donnell Rubay 175 West H Street - Ms. Rubay stated that there were pictures taken when the original survey was done. The photographs were meticulously copied and given to the Community Development Department. These photographs may help when the new survey is done.

Mayor Messina stated that he wants to make sure that the public is aware of the plan and what it involves.

On Motion of Council Member Smith, seconded by Vice Mayor Patterson, and unanimously approved, the Work program to update the City of Benicia Downtown Historic Conservation Plan was approved.

Mayor Messina called for a 5 minute break at 10:45 p.m.

The meeting resumed at 10:55 p.m.

Mayor Messina asked Council if they wanted to change the order of the remaining two items on the Agenda. Council Member Whitney suggested discussing item XB, and moving item XC to the 3/16/04 Agenda. Mayor Messina stated that Council would discuss item XB - the Intermodal Transportation Station Project Update, and see how far they get. If need be, XC could be moved to the next Agenda.

**Report on Intermodal Transportation Station Project Update:**

Assistant City Manager Karen Majors gave a brief synopsis of the Staff report summary listed on Agenda pages XB2 to XB5.

**Public Comment:**

1. **Steve Goetz 347 Goldenslopes Court - Mr. Goetz wanted to discuss the City's Capital Improvement Plan. The City does not have a very good track record. The location the City has selected for the Community Center is as far away from the center of the community as one could get. The Community Center should be centrally located in the community. The location of the Intermodal project is not a good one either. He listed various problems with the overall Intermodal Train Station project. He stated that a better project to address is a commuter ferry. The City should not only look at trains and busses as alternative transportation, but should also consider ferry services.**
2. **Vice Mayor Patterson asked Mr. Goetz to clarify his background and experience in this area. Mr. Goetz stated that he is a Transportation Planner. He has been doing this for approximately 20 years. He has not done a formal study on this particular issue; however, it is very obvious to him that a ferry would be a more cost effective and user friendly way to go.**
3. **Council Member Whitney asked Mr. Goetz what his thoughts were on a Light Rail System coming into the scenario. Mr. Goetz responded by stating that he thought this was something that was a very long way off. He did not think he would see a Light Rail System coming to Benicia during his working years.**
4. **Belinda Smith - Ms. Smith stated that the current Park and Ride off of East Second Street is rarely full. She does not see any added value to the Intermodal Transportation Station project. She is not terribly in favor of the project.**

**Vice Mayor Patterson stated that she would like to have a discussion with Council regarding this issue. Council needs to set forth criteria for how to look at an appropriate Intermodal Station. If the current proposed Intermodal Station could meet the criteria there would be no objection. This particular location defies a lot of planning logic and understanding for the needs of Benicia. It certainly does not fulfill the intent of the General Plan. Council should direct Staff for the preparation of the Capital Improvement Plan. Vice Mayor Patterson stated that her first request is to have a sense from Council that we could have a Resolution for action at the 3/16 Council Meeting, and secondly that there could be a brief discussion on that tonight.**

**Council Member Campbell stated that he had already requested this item be on the next Agenda. He then asked Staff if it would take longer to get to the Martinez train station than to get to the proposed Intermodal station. Assistant City Manager Karen Majors stated she had not had a chance to formally address this yet. Council Member Campbell stated that it would take approximately 9-10 minutes to get to each location. He then asked the STA representative, Dan Christians where all the money for this project was coming from. Council Member Campbell and Mr. Christians discussed various cost issues related with this project, as well as timelines for reimbursement of monies already spent.**

**Council Member Smith stated that goal 2.18 in the General Plan encourages provisions for a train station. Goal 2.19 promotes regional and local ferry service. He supports Staff's recommendation to cease spending on this project. He strongly supports Vice Mayor Patterson's call for a capital improvement plan. He does not think both issues should be tied up in one Resolution. He would like to see the capital improvement plan addressed on a future agenda.**

**Council Member Whitney asked Mr. Christians (STA) where Benicia stands as far as being in line for funding for ferry services. Mr. Christians stated that Vallejo was ahead of Benicia in that sense. We would, in a sense, have to wait in line for the funds.**

**Mayor Messina stated that he is supportive of the concept of tying the capital improvement plan to the General Plan. In terms of the Intermodal Train Station, he agrees the City should suspend spending until it gets some money back. In terms of locations, he agrees with Council Member Whitney. There are most likely better locations that could be selected.**

**2003-2004 Municipal Budget Midyear Overview and proposed budget adjustment: Due to the late hour, Council agreed to continue this item to the 3/16/04 Agenda.**

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**Mayor Messina adjourned the meeting 11:50 p.m.**

**Lisa Wolfe, City Clerk**