

MINUTES OF THE
SPECIAL MEETING – CITY COUNCIL
May 28, 2013

City Council Chambers, City Hall, 250 East L Street, complete proceedings of which are recorded on tape.

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Patterson called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

II. CONVENE OPEN SESSION:

A. ROLL CALL

All Council Members were present.

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Brad Kilger led the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. REFERENCE TO THE FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS OF THE PUBLIC.

III. ANNOUNCEMENTS/PROCLAMATIONS/APPOINTMENTS/PRESENTATIONS:

A. PRESENTATIONS

- 1. OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SEMI-ANNUAL REVIEW OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND INITIATIVES**

IV. ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

On motion of Council Member Schwartzman, seconded by Council Member Hughes, Council adopted the Agenda, as presented, on roll call by the following vote:

Ayes: Patterson, Strawbridge, Schwartzman, Campbell, Hughes
Noes: (None)

V. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:

A. WRITTEN COMMENT

Two items (copies on file).

B. PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Jon Van Landschoot - Mr. Van Landschoot inquired about upcoming budget study sessions.

Staff clarified there would be budget meetings on 6/24, 6/25, and 6/26. The meetings would be posted as special meetings; they would be televised, and would be held in City Council Chambers. The more thoughtful and engaging process/approach would be done after the budget is set on June 30, 2013.

2. Roger Straw - Mr. Straw discussed concern regarding the need to address the problems at the City Cemetery. The water runoff is damaging the head stones, and the cemetery is in a state of disrepair.
3. Susan Street - Ms. Street announced the upcoming Waterfront Park meeting on 6/5/13.
4. Jim Wallace - Mr. Wallace discussed the upcoming ceremony where Benicia resident Bob Hitchcock would be awarded the Legion d'honneur on June 6, 2013.

VI. STUDY SESSION:

A. STUDY SESSION ITEM: BOARD & COMMISSION REVIEW

Brad Kilger, City Manager, reviewed the process that would be followed for the review.

Anne Cardwell, Acting Assistant City Manager, reviewed the staff report and a PowerPoint presentation.

Council, Staff, and the public discussed the options presented in the staff report.

Mayor Patterson summarized that the general consensus was to go with Option #3 (eliminating the dormant committees, suspending the Sky Valley Open Space committee after one more meeting).

Council Member Hughes clarified that the direction to staff included having Staff gather more information and perform more analysis to get Council to a point where they could make a better, more informed decision with respect to combining boards and commissions.

Mayor Patterson clarified that further analysis could lead to suggestions.

Council Member Hughes would like to see more analysis and recommendations regarding combining boards and commissions.

Mr. Kilger discussed concerns regarding the timing of the proposed analysis. Staff could look into the issues over the next 12 months.

Mayor Patterson discussed having the boards and commissions do 'tune-ups' to improve efficiency, etc.

Council Member Strawbridge reinforced the need for orientation for board and commission members.

(For detailed information on the discussion on the above item, please view the meeting recording on the City's website, or on the available DVD in the City Clerk's office.)

VII. ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Patterson adjourned the meeting at 9:10 p.m.

Lisa Wolfe, City Clerk