

MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR MEETING – CITY COUNCIL
June 15, 2010

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 7:06 p.m.

II. CLOSED SESSION:

III. CONVENE OPEN SESSION:

A. ROLL CALL

Council Member Hughes was absent.

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mike Alvarez led the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. REFERENCE TO THE FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS OF PUBLIC:

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS/APPOINTMENTS/PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS:

A. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mayor Patterson and Vice Mayor Schwartzman discussed the process the City was following for hiring a new city manager, and the public process that would be followed. There is currently one session set up for public input, and a second session would be scheduled.

1. Announcement of action taken at Closed Session, if any:

Ms. McLaughlin reported that Council gave direction to Staff on both Closed Session items.

2. Openings on Boards and Commissions:

Open Government Commission:
One full term to January 31, 2014

Finance, Audit and Budget Committee:

One unexpired term to January 31, 2013

Benicia Housing Authority Board of Commissioners: Two full terms to July 31, 2014

Human Services Board: Three full terms to July 31, 2014

Parks, Recreation and Cemetery Commission: One full term to July 31, 2014

Economic Development Board: Three full terms to July 31, 2014

Library Board of Trustees: Two full terms to July 31, 2013

3. Mayor's Office Hours:

Mayor Patterson will maintain an open office every Monday (except holidays) in the Mayor's Office of City Hall from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. No appointment is necessary. Other meeting times may be scheduled through the City Hall office at 746-4200.

B. APPOINTMENTS:

1. Appointment of Vice Mayor Schwartzman and Council Member Ioakimedes to the Council Subcommittee to update the Garbage Franchise:

RESOLUTION 10-71 - A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF VICE MAYOR SCHWARTZMAN AND COUNCIL MEMBER IOAKIMEDES TO THE GARBAGE FRANCHISE SUBCOMMITTEE

Public Comment:

None

Mayor Patterson discussed the need for milestones for this item. She would like to see a timeline for this at the next regular Council meeting, so Council would know when it needs to make a decision on the fork in the road.

Council and Staff discussed placing the discussion on the 7/20/10 Council agenda.

On motion of Mayor Patterson, Council approved the Resolution, on roll call by the following vote:

Ayes: Patterson, Schwartzman, Campbell, Ioakimedes

Noes: (None)

C. PRESENTATIONS:

D. PROCLAMATIONS:

V. ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

On motion of Vice Mayor Schwartzman, seconded by Council Member loakimedes, Council approved the agenda as presented, on roll call by the following vote:

Ayes: Patterson, Schwartzman, Campbell, loakimedes

Noes: (None)

VI. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:

A. WRITTEN COMMENT:

None

B. PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

VII. CONSENT CALENDAR:

Council pulled items VII-A, VII-B, VII-F, VII-G, and VII-H.

On motion of Vice Mayor Schwartzman, seconded by Council Member loakimedes, Council approved the Consent Calendar as amended, on roll call by the following vote:

Ayes: Patterson, Schwartzman, Campbell, loakimedes

Noes: (None)

A. Approval of Minutes of June 1, 2010:

Mayor Patterson requested the language regarding the resolution opposing Proposition 16 be expanded to clarify Council's position. Ms. Wolfe verified she would listen to the DVD and clarify the language.

On motion of Vice Mayor Schwartzman, seconded by Council Member Campbell, Council approved the minutes as amended, on roll call by the following vote:

Ayes: Patterson, Schwartzman, Campbell, loakimedes

Noes: (None)

B. Update on Tourism Marketing Program:

Vice Mayor Schwartzman asked for clarification on the number of visitor centers. He discussed concern regarding only having one visitors center that has hard core facts and numbers, minimal information from another center, and no information from the other two visitors centers.

Council Member loakimedes discussed his questions on the operator outreach, Facebook, and the lack of reporting from Benicia. He would like a quick update from Staff or Mr. Wolf.

Amalia Lorentz and Jack Wolf reviewed the staff report.

Council Member loakimedes and Staff discussed the possibility of going back a few years to see if there were trends with sales tax.

Mayor Patterson discussed the new hotel and other new businesses, and the difficulty in setting a new baseline.

Council Member Campbell and Staff discussed the sales tax baseline,

Council Member loakimedes and Staff discussed the tour operators/outreach, and past contact the City had with the San Francisco Visitors Bureau.

Mr. Wolf discussed the tour operators, the possibility of checking on tours through San Francisco Visitors Bureau, and looking into whether Benicia was a member of San Francisco Convention and Visitors Bureau (SFCVB).

Council Member loakimedes and Mr. Wolf discussed whether there was a way to gauge the reaction that is created by special events, discussing the issue at EDB, and where the City should be focusing its efforts (it needs to focus on long term businesses in the Downtown area).

Council Member Campbell requested Mr. Wolfe update Council on what had been done so far. Mr. Wolf reviewed the work that had been done: work on the website, the photo shoots, the first brochure was finished, Facebook page was up and running, press releases, ad campaign was in full swing, radio ads were scheduled, Facebook ads were scheduled, and they were getting Wiggio up and running.

Vice Mayor Schwartzman, Mr. Wolf, and Ms. Lorentz discussed how the City would track the ad buying, and the issue of working with merchants to do more concrete tracking (which would be talked about at the next EDB meeting).

Mayor Patterson requested Council receive copies of the media coverage, and copies of the audio ads.

Public Comment:

None

C. Award of Chemical Contracts for Water Treatment – Fiscal Year 2010-2011:

RESOLUTION 10-72 - A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING BIDS AND AWARDING CONTRACTS TO THE LOWEST RESPONSIBLE BIDDERS FOR FURNISHING CHEMICALS FOR WATER TREATMENT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010-2011 AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO SIGN THE CONTRACTS ON BEHALF OF THE CITY

D. Approval of Change Orders for the Benicia High School Traffic Signal and Entrance Circulation Improvement Project:

RESOLUTION 10-73 - A RESOLUITON APPROVING 18 CHANGE ORDERS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$54,229 FOR THE BENICIA HIGH SCHOOL TRAFFIC SIGNAL AND ENTRANCE CIRCULATION IMPROVEMENT PROJECT FOR A TOTAL CHANGE ORDER AMOUNT TO DATE OF \$103,214 AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO SIGN THE CHANGE ORDERS ON BEHALF OF THE CITY

E. Approval of a contract amendment for Citycentric Investments for professional services and consultation;

RESOLUTION 10-74 - A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE CONTRACT AMENDMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$94,250 WITH CITYCENTRIC INVESTMENTS FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AND CONSULTATION AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE THE AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY

F. City of Benicia Landscaping and Lighting District Fiscal Year 2010-2011:

RESOLUTION 10-75 - A RESOLUTION OF INTENTION TO ORDER THE LEVY AND COLLECTION OF ASSESSMENTS PURSUANT TO THE LANDSCAPING AND LIGHTING ACT OF 1972 AND THEREFORE SETTING A PUBLIC HEARING ON JULY 06, 2010 FISCAL YEAR 2010-2011 CITY OF BENICIA LANDSCAPING AND LIGHTING DISTRICT

Mayor Patterson discussed concerns regarding the assessment district's spending City reserve funds, the value of assessment districts, and what is not covered in all other areas of the City.

Council Member Campbell, Mayor Patterson, and Staff discussed the issue of

deficit spending, the residential district, reevaluating the assessment districts, things that could be done (trail improvements, fire safety, and water management) under the current assessment district (currently there is a lack of money coming in from the assessment districts).

Mr. Erickson discussed previous meetings with the residents of the Fleetside District. Mayor Patterson asked him to follow up on the outcome of the meeting.

Vice Mayor Schwartzman and Staff discussed the need to get the public process going on this.

Council Member Campbell discussed the need to start doing something (putting a notice in the water bill as to what is done with the funds collected in the assessment districts).

Mayor Patterson would like to see a schedule for the approach that will be taken on a future agenda. She would like to have consideration of having council meetings at schools so the residents of the districts could attend.

Public Comment:

None

On motion of Vice Mayor Schwartzman, seconded by Council Member Campbell, Council approved the Resolution, on roll call by the following vote:
Ayes: Patterson, Schwartzman, Campbell, loakimedes
Noes: (None)

G. Adoption of a Whistleblower Policy Statement:

RESOLUTION 10-76 - A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE BENICIA WHISTLEBLOWER POLICY

Council Member loakimedes and Staff discussed whether the City was conforming to the legal requirements (it is), and concern regarding redundant policies.

Staff discussed their plan to re-familiarize employees with the policy (if adopted) and to include the information in new hire and volunteer packets. It could also be included in the Open Government training.

Public Comment:

None

On motion of Council Member loakimedes, seconded by Council Member

Campbell, Council approved the Resolution, on roll call by the following vote:
Ayes: Patterson, Schwartzman, Campbell, loakimedes
Noes: (None)

H. Approval of Tree Inventory / Master Plan Contract:

RESOLUTION 10- 77- A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE CONTRACT WITH WEST COAST ARBORISTS, INC. IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$75,000 FOR PURPOSE OF PERFORMING A TREE INVENTORY AND MASTER PLAN, ALLOCATED FROM THE TREE PROGRAM FUND AND AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PARKS AND COMMUNITY SERVICES TO SIGN THE TREE SERVICE CONTRACT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY

Vice Mayor Schwartzman and Staff discussed the reasons for choosing the contractor, the reasons for the City spending the money on the contract at this time (grant support and Valero funds).

Public Comment:

None

Council Member loakimedes and Staff discussed the RFP process that was followed. He asked that the possibility of using trees as traffic calming measures and wayfinding be discussed with the Tree Committee.

Mayor Patterson requested a link to the RFP and the winning contractor's statement of qualifications be put on the City's website. She would like to make that practice the standard.

On motion of Vice Mayor Schwartzman, seconded by Council Member Campbell, Council approved the resolution, on roll call by the following vote:
Ayes: Patterson, Schwartzman, Campbell, loakimedes
Noes: (None)

I. Approval to waive the reading of all ordinances introduced and adopted pursuant to this agenda:

VIII. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

IX. ACTION ITEMS:

X. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

A. City Manager Reports:

1. Public involvement in budget process: Community Priorities

Survey and Workshop:

Anne Cardwell, Administrative Services Director, and Mario Giuliani, Management Analyst, reviewed the staff report. They reviewed a PowerPoint presentation (copy on file).

Council Member Campbell asked Staff to include the projected revenue for 2007-2010 into the process. He would like to see the process used by the Parks, Recreation and Cemetery Commission expanded a little for this process.

Mayor Patterson requested a link to the PowerPoint presentation used tonight on the City's website. She asked Staff to look into 'Next 10' (which is being used by the State of California), introducing some idea of what the services cost into the workshop, the need to emphasize that doing the service review and the workshop is one of the strategies for dealing with the budget, and the City's choices (compensation review, service review, and new revenues). She suggested having some Council meetings at the school sites in the Southampton areas.

Mr. Erickson discussed the survey method that was being used, and his familiarity with Next 10.

Public Comment:

None

B. Council Member Committee Reports:

- 1. Mayor's Committee Meeting.
(Mayor Patterson)
Next Meeting Date: June 16, 2010**
- 2. Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG).
(Mayor Patterson and Council Member Ioakimedes)
Next Meeting Date: October 21, 2010**
- 3. Finance, Audit and Budget Committee.
(Vice Mayor Schwartzman and Council Member Campbell)
Next Meeting Date: June 25, 2010**
- 4. League of California Cities.
(Mayor Patterson and Vice Mayor Schwartzman)
Next Meeting Date: July 29, 2010**
- 5. School Liaison Committee.
(Council Members Ioakimedes and Hughes)**

Next Meeting Date: August 7, 2010

- 6. Sky Valley Open Space Committee.
(Council Members Campbell and Hughes)
Next Meeting Date: June 16, 2010**
- 7. Solano EDC Board of Directors.
(Mayor Patterson and Council Member Campbell)
Next meeting date: July 22, 2010**
- 8. Solano Transportation Authority (STA).
(Mayor Patterson and Council Member loakimedes)
Next Meeting Date: July 14, 2010**
- 9. Solano Water Authority-Solano County Water Agency and Delta
Committee.
(Mayor Patterson and Vice Mayor Schwartzman)
Next Meeting Date: July 8, 2010**
- 10. Traffic, Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Committee.
(Council Members Hughes and loakimedes)
Next meeting Date: July 15, 2010**
- 11. Tri-City and County Regional Parks and Open Space.
(Council Members Campbell and Hughes)
Next Meeting Date: June 14, 2010**
- 12. Valero Community Advisory Panel (CAP).
(Council Member Hughes)
Next Meeting Date: July 15, 2010**
- 13. Youth Action Coalition.
(Vice Mayor Schwartzman and Council Member Campbell)
Next Meeting Date: June 23, 2010**
- 14. ABAG-CAL FED Task Force-Bay Area Water Forum.
(Mayor Patterson)
Next Meeting Date: June 28, 2010**

XI. ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Patterson adjourned the meeting at 8:37 p.m.