

October 29, 2002

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
SPECIAL MEETING - CITY COUNCIL
OCTOBER 29, 2002

A special meeting of the City Council of the City of Benicia was called to order by Mayor Steve Messina at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, October 29, 2002, in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 250 East L Street, complete proceeding 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 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:

Kathy Kerridge, 771 West I Street, stated that she was unable to access information about project on the City's website; other projects such as historic restoration, drainage problem at the end of B Street and improvement of parks need funding; put this project to a vote of the people.

NEW BUSINESS:

POLICE FACILITY/CIVIC CENTER CAMPUS IMPROVEMENT PROJECT
REPORT ON THE PLANNING COMMISSION AND DESIGN REVIEW COMMISSION
ACTIONS REGARDING DESIGN, ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW AND USE PERMIT
RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE PROJECT DESIGN AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY
MANAGER TO PREPARE FINAL WORK DRAWINGS FOR THE POLICE FACILITY AND CIVIC
CENTER CAMPUS IMPROVEMENTS AND TO SOLICIT BIDS FOR THE PROJECT WITH
SPECIFIC BID ALTERNATES

Otto Giuliani, gave an updated report; stressed that what was before the Council was not a request for money; basic cost of the building was \$7 million not the \$12.8 million reported; building needs to be built to very specific standards.

Larry Schwin, Principal Designer, Beverly Prior Architects, gave a presentation of the current site layout; reviewed changes made in order to reduce the size and cost of the Police Facility.

Jim Trimble, Police Chief, gave a report; geotechnical findings showed some hazardous materials that would need to be removed from the site; the three existing buildings can not be

demolished due to their historical significance; current building is unsafe and some maintenance has been deferred; financing would be based on Certificates of Participation, 20 years at 5.5% (\$1 million per year).

Vice Mayor Campbell questioned the cost per square foot of the building; possibility of grant funding; would like to let voters decide on funding of the entire complex.

Council Member Whitney questioned availability of handicap access, number of parking spaces and retention of the retaining wall on East K Street; encouraged public opinion; complemented staff and the Blue Ribbon Committee.

Council Member Smith expressed concerns about the cost of the furnishings; asked about the possibility of doing the project without contingencies.

Jim Trimble, Police Chief, stated that most of the cost for furnishings and equipment would be for updating of the 911 Center.

Council Member Bidou stated this project was a community effort; move ahead with the process and approve design; would like hard costs before committing to more than the design; supports Resolution.

Mayor Messina read portions of the Resolution as a reminder as to what was to be voted on.

Seven concerned citizens spoke on this item.

Council Member Smith stated appreciation for the Blue Ribbon Committee, staff and consultant; this is the most important Capital Improvement facing the City; suggested doing a comparison of other cities police facilities; allow voters to vote on a bond issue; wait for an opinion from the new City Manager.

Mayor Messina clarified that it was the Mayor and Council Members that make the decisions for the City, not the City Manager.

Council took the following action:

RESOLUTION NO. 02-180 - A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE DESIGN AND AUTHORIZING STAFF TO PROCEED WITH BID ADVERTISEMENT FOR THE POLICE FACILITY AND CIVIC CENTER IMPROVEMENTS

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

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

Noes: Council Member Smith

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Messina adjourned the meeting at 9:31 p.m.

Linda S. Purdy, City Clerk