

TIBURON TOWN HALL

By Dave Gotz

After the City of Tiburon incorporated in June 1964, the need for offices and a meeting place was a priority, but without any cash flow the new city had to beg and borrow for a space as well as furnishings. For the first few months the offices were in Del Mar School; in the fall the upstairs of the small building at 1610 Tiburon Blvd. was leased. In June 1966 the first long-term City Hall location was leased at 80 Main St. in a new building on Ark Row. The Police Department (at the time composed of Marin County Sheriffs on loan) was housed below on the parking lot.

Ten years later the City purchased two and a half acres from the Reed Union School District adjacent to Reed School. The property included two remaining original buildings of the former military Hilarita Housing development. The buildings at 1155 Tiburon Blvd. were remodeled and occupied by the Police Dept. and the City offices starting in 1977 (this site is now the location of Chandlers Gate.) Within a

short time these buildings were inadequate, and the newly renamed Town of Tiburon started searching for a place to build a "proper" town hall. In 1985 Ed Zelinsky donated the corner lot at Mar West and Tiburon Blvd. to the Town, the site was soon proposed as a spot for Town Hall. Two competing ideas for a new Town Hall location were debated for several years: redevelop the existing property next to Reed School, or sell that property and use the proceeds to build on the Mar West property, the latter was chosen by public vote in June 1995. With great fanfare the 9,200 square foot Town Hall at 1505 Tiburon Blvd. was dedicated on May 3, 1997, just 20 days after the adjacent Belvedere-Tiburon Library was opened.



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1. The first City Hall was upstairs at 1610 Tiburon Blvd. (Diane Smith) 2. The City of Tiburon government moves into its new digs at 80 Main St. in June 1966. (Diane Smith) 3. Tiburon City Hall (1977-1997) in a former WW II Hilarita Housing building located at 1155 Tiburon Blvd. (Diane Smith) 4. Tiburon Town Hall 2010. (Kathy Gray)

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