



# Sebastopol Citizens

E d u c a t e - C o m m u n i c a t e

## Sebastopol City Council Meeting May 15, 2018 – Synopsis and Commentary

(Since business called me away on the 15th, part of the summary was written in absentia and the other part in Pacific Grove, CA.)

### Proclamations/Presentations:

- May 17<sup>th</sup> was proclaimed Lyme Awareness Month.
- May was also proclaimed Downing Awareness Month.

### Consent Calendar:

- Our building inspector will pull a TDY (Temporary Duty Assignment) to Rohnert Park because, try as it might, Rohnert Park can't keep up with its rate of construction. Since Sebastopol has no rate of construction (unless you count that yurt my aunt Beulah built for cousin Zeke's skunky smoking habits) it appears that our building inspector will continue to be gainfully employed and actually get to inspect something. He'll be limited to 10 hours a week and 80 hours a month. Should Target, Tidewater Oil or The Trump Organization (?) all decide to build here all at once, the city can call him in. Sebastopol has “provided similar services” to that other building crazy city, Cotati, in the past.
- The council considered approving the AmeriCorps Trail design. The trail itself was created in a single day by group of volunteers with enough extra energy to light half of Sonoma County. It's just west of the Laguna Channel and parallels Morris Street. But the improvements are on city property and the idea is to connect them. **One of the advantages of this design is to “improve surveillance of Preserve Lands in this area, which have been subject to illegal camping.”** Well, it looks like cousin Zeke will shortly have to pack-up his yurt and [hit the road](#). Hopefully he won't have to go further than Morris Street as his yurt doesn't look half as funky as some of those RVs ensconced there. The council budgeted for the work using park impact fees and hopes to get matching funds from the Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District – which could happen if the District forgets what we did at the Railroad Briar Patch (aka The Railroad Forest).
- Lopping off a piece of the Village Mobile Home Park and grafting it to Tomodachi Park was discussed.

### Public Hearings:

- The public heard a review and the council considered the proposed budget for fiscal year 20 18-19.
- Likewise for the city's capital improvement plan. “These projects normally are non-repetitive stand-alone work involving city streets, bike paths, water, sewer, and storm water infrastructure, and city facilities including offices and parks.”

### Regular: Calendar Agenda Items:

- **The council took baby steps to create more housing in the city.** Facing reality, at least here, they are focused on encouraging more granny units and encouraging homeowners to rent out parts of their houses. If Zeke offers you a spot in his yurt, my advice is to demur – unless you are a very serious entomologist.
- The council considered two ballot measures for the November 6, 2018 elections. It will extend the Measure Y ½ cent sales tax and increase the Transit Occupancy Tax. The city will contract with Muni Services to prepare a ballot measure. The cost will be \$10,000. **Should the sales tax measure fail, the city would lose about 15% (\$1.4 million dollars)** of its income. And we would all move back to a simpler time of dirt roads, collecting water at the Laguna and heating our yurts with collected fallen wood – unless it's a no burn day.
- **Cittaslow has convinced the council to pony up \$11,481 to provide free bus rides on Local Route 24.** Doing what it does best, Cittaslow unleashed an avalanche of unscientific verbiage to impress the susceptible while managing **not to spend a dime of its \$20,000 budget.** For the **\$5,000 the city allots to the Chamber of Commerce, you get the two day Apple Blossom Festival and Parade plus the Holiday Tree Lighting, Community Awards and other less visible benefits.** We'll see what happens to this free bus thing the first time Zeke gets aboard with his emotional support critter – whatever that thing is.
- The council was scheduled to select a person to grace the “Making a Difference Banners” to flutter in the breeze around town while making us all feel a little less adequate.

#### **A Parting Shot:**

- Perhaps the EMF lady, or one of her supporters or even one of the chem trail conspirator contingent, should be flapping away on the “Making a Difference Banner.” They certainly make a difference on the number of people who can stomach a city council meeting. Nepotism law and a few outstanding Interpol warrants prevent me from nominating Zeke.

A Special City Council Meeting of Wednesday, May 30th , 2018 at 4:00 pm at Sebastopol City Hall, 7120 Bodega Avenue, Sebastopol, CA 95472 to discuss Zoning Ordinance Amendments and Zoning Map Amendments.

The next Regular City Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 5, 2018, at 6:00 pm, at the Sebastopol Youth Annex/Teen Center, 425 Morris Street, Sebastopol, CA.

Your can view this meeting and others at: <http://bit.ly/sebcctv>.

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