



Sebastopol Citizens

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

Sebastopol City Council Meeting January 17, 2016 – Synopsis and Commentary

All Council members were present.

Proclamations/Presentations:

- Years of Service Awards were presented to Reserve Officer Michael Sansone (5 years) and Senior Communications Dispatcher Tracy Peters (20 years).

Public Comment (aka Open Mike):

- [Siobhan Hauff](#), Miss Sonoma County's Outstanding Teen, spoke and invited the Council to attend the [upcoming competition](#).
- **Former Council Member Eder** urged us not to watch the upcoming presidential inauguration because the ratings will drop and make the incoming president's "**head explode.**" He also wants us to **boycott CVS** and "take all the parking spaces close to the front door."
- The next speaker, who isn't haunted by the specter of defeat, urged us not to "terrorize" the employees of CVS who were just doing their jobs.

Consent Calendar: (Approved 5:0)

- The Council approved a request for bids to repair the crosswalk lighting at the Bodega Avenue/High Street intersection.
- Also approved was a resolution determining that Police Sergeant Michael Nielsen is "incapacitated within the meaning of the public employees' retirement law." CalPERS requires this when a disability retirement application is filed by a public safety member.

Regular Agenda Items:

- Council discussed **amending the zoning ordinance** to allow maximum building height up to four stories and/or 50 feet and allow some changes regarding parking to accommodate the proposed **Sebastopol Hotel** at the old Diamond Lumber yard. **Mayor Glass and Council Member Gurney** agonized over the 50-foot allowance, seemingly filled with dread of [making the list](#). Eventually calmed by staff, the amendment was approved. (Passed 5:0)
- And in the "**Only In Sebastopol Department**" the **Design Board's approval of the hotel project was appealed** by **Design Board Member Lynn Deedler** who was the lone "no" vote on the board's approval of the project at the [December 7, 2016 meeting \(See page #4\)](#). At this council meeting, he was roundly criticized by members of the design review board and the planning commission for disrespecting the process and exhibiting unprofessional behavior at the DRB meetings. There were 11 speakers during public comment and all but one supported

the hotel and/or criticized Deedler. Oh, the one lone supporter, by the way, was former Council Member John "**Boycott CVS**" Eder. **Only Vice Mayor Member Slayter** had the temerity to publicly **criticize Deedler**. Both council members Hinton and Carnacchi can be excused for not doing so because they were just elected and not so familiar with the project. There is **no excuse** for **Glass and Gurney** remaining silent about his behavior. [You may hear the remarks of the two board members here starting around 3-10-20](#). It's worth the trouble. (Denied 5:0)

- The mid-year budget adjustments were reviewed.
- Bill Mattinson and Steven Pierce were selected as our liaisons to the [Sonoma County Transportation Authority/Regional Climate Protection Agency](#).
- The Council discussed an unscheduled vacancy on the Design Review Board and the Public Arts Committee.
- There was some house cleaning required for the [former Redevelopment Agency](#) that Governor Brown blew out of the water a few years ago.

A Parting Shot:

- Perhaps this is why Deedler's appeal failed:

Architectural Awards received by David Baker Architects:

<http://www.dbarchitect.com/us/awards.html>

Architectural Awards received by Lynn Deedler: Oops, "not found."

Elapsed Time: 5:20 hours (6:00–11:20pm)

Next City Council goals and priorities meeting is January 31, 2017 at the City Hall, 6:00pm.

You can view this meeting and others at: <https://livestream.com/accounts/14608643>.

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