



# Sebastopol Citizens

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

## Sebastopol City Council Meeting April 3, 2018 – Synopsis and Commentary

- All council members were present

### Proclamations/Presentations:

- The council recognized April as [Sexual Assault Awareness Month](#).
- April and May were declared [Community Resilience Challenge Months](#).

### Public Comment (aka Open Mike):

- Two folks from the Ragle Road/Bodega Avenue corner encouraged the city to keep moving forward with traffic control changes there.
- We discovered that [Sebastopol's Little League](#) opener will arrive this Saturday – right after an incoming major league [Pineapple Express](#) on Friday.
- Armed with beeping detectors of various genres, bedecked in a chain mail bee keeper's hood, draped with warning signs front and back, our perpetual provocateur of the perils of EMF rambled, without even a nod to continuity, about the dangers of EMF. She did little to convince but went a long way to lead us to suspect we are not alone in the cosmos.

### Consent Calendar: (Approved 5:0)

- Steven Levenberg was appointed to the county [Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee](#).

### Regular Agenda Items: (Passed 5:0)

- The council agreed to join with the county and hire [W-Trans](#) to apply for a grant from [ATP Cycle 4](#). If successful, the grant would be used to improve road and bike conditions on Bodega Avenue between Jewell Avenue and Atascadero Creek, Ragle Road between Bodega Avenue and Mill Station Road and Mill Station Road and Hwy. 116. Improvements to various intersections are included. W-Trans will provide planning, design and grant writing services to the city and county at a cost to the city not to **exceed \$27,837**. This item, a collaboration brought about by **Council Member Gurney** and [Supervisor Lynda Hopkins](#), had the immediate support of the entire council and many of the Ragle Road residents. **Council Member Carnacchi** tried, but failed, to convince W-Trans to take less now but get more if the grant application was successful. Supervisor Hopkins, who was in attendance, spoke to a “style of governance” that worked together with cities instead of just focusing only on our separate issues. Ya see that! You get some young people in there and you get new ideas.

### Informational Items/ Presentation:

- **Cittaslow** reported on itself. Since [May 7, 2013](#), when then Vice Mayor Jacob pushed through a **\$20,000 per year** budget approval for Cittaslow, it has labored to produce for that yearly sum the following: <https://cittaslowsebastopol.org/>.

**Regular Agenda Items-Continued:** (Passed 5:0)

- On [August 1, 2017](#), the council moved ahead with approving [Ned Kahn's sculpture](#) at the east end of the new bridge. Unfortunately Caltrans was not amused. Worrying that the movement and reflection of the art would present a traffic hazard, it insisted on a different design. So Kahn has come up with something Caltrans could live with but something far less dramatic. Because this is Sebastopol, public comment produced several non-artists who had ideas to improve a project that was [created by this fellow](#). Kahn's design prevailed. Kahn also credited its survival of the dreaded Caltrans process to the planning director. [This is a video of the material in blue instead of the silver-colored one that will be used at the bridge.](#)
- Four new names were approved for the downtown peace wall for Peacetown, USA. They are: [Dolores Huerta](#), [Tui Wilschinsky](#), [Therese Mughannam](#) and [Daniel Ellsberg](#).
- The annual Level of Service Report was given. This is a "[How We Doin' Report](#)" and makes for some interesting reading.

**A Parting Shot:**

- Sometimes, especially during public comment, it becomes clear why even James Madison didn't want a pure democracy.

Elapsed Time: 3:15 hours (6:00–9:15pm)

Next City Council meeting is April 17, 2018 at the Teen Center, 425 Morris Street at 6:00pm.

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

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