



Sebastopol Citizens

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

Sebastopol City Council Meeting November 7, 2017 – Synopsis and Commentary

All Council members were present.

Closed Session at 3:00pm:

- Two potential cases of litigation under [Code 54956.9 \(d\) \(2\)](#).
- Evidently, there is still existing litigation involving CVS – and more may be on the way.*

Proclamations/Presentations:

- Years of Service Awards were presented to **Jim Levy** (5 years with the fire department), **Nicolas Belliveau** (10 years with the police department), and **Kenneth Gosselin** (15 years with the public works department). During the recent fire, at zero dark-thirty while evacuating his home with wife and child, **Officer Belliveau** was called to duty in Sebastopol. After securing his family's safety, he reported to work where he remained for several long hours. When he at last had a chance to return home, he found only ashes.

Public Comment (aka Open Mike):

- There were 13 speakers and it lasted for 35 minutes. *Some* details are listed below and none of it is fake news – though it may appear to the contrary in some cases.
- A resident of the [Valley View](#) area was concerned that the city was paying only “lip service” to the traffic safety issues there. In fact, the city is responding quite promptly, although the effects of the fire have slowed progress somewhat and the wheels of government move slowly at all times.
- **KOWS** radio and **St. Stephen's Episcopal Church** are sponsoring a concert for fire victims on Saturday, November the 11th. [More information here](#).
- **A past City Council member was eager** to point out what he views as violations in the **existing CVS building** design agreement. **Picky, picky, picky**. And he has yet to notice the beer coolers are not placed where he wanted them. When discovered, what will be his reaction to that outrage to humanity?
- There were complaints about the upcoming Caltrans sidewalk changes and general street conditions.
- [Covered in a head net](#), which gave her the appearance of a demented Jeanne d'Arc on a bender, our long absent but seldom missed EMF lady returned, giving us something other than EMF to fear.
- And if that wasn't enough, the fellow on Hwy. 116 north of town, sporting a feather in his hat in lieu of a gray pony tail, descended upon us with a few of his vassals to mumble gibberish for 15 minutes. After having their remarks digitally translated, it appears that the United States Air Force started the recent fires with lasers. And the “unique” winds were caused by USAF chem trails. (In fact, those “unique” winds also happened earlier during the [Oakland Hills Fire](#).) His statement that he has been arrested 17 times will be accepted at face value. [That digital](#)

[translation may be viewed here.](#)

Consent Calendar: (See below.)

- A contract with [Engelke Construction](#) was approved for the removal of median strips along Covert Lane to accommodate bike lanes. The cost is **\$114,674** and will be paid by the Traffic Impact Fund.
- Cancellation of the January 2nd Council meeting was finally agreed upon because of [administrative issues](#).
- The mayor was authorized to sign a letter of support for [Daily Acts](#)' attempt to win a grant from [KaBoom](#) for playground equipment at Park Village, once known as [Village Mobile Home Park](#).
- The mayor was authorized to sign a memorandum of understanding with the State of California so we can take advantage of the state's [Safety Assessment Program](#).

Regular Agenda Items:

- Armstrong Development wants to purchase land in order to build a 4,400 square-foot building with two tenant spaces on the CVS site where the bank was scheduled to be. Because of the settlement agreement during the CVS Wars, and it is not a financial institution, the building must come before the City Council for approval instead of the Design Review Board. The pad has been built and no new applications or permitting is required. Staff recommended approval with conditions but "The Council review is limited to design review aspects... However, the building's location, size and other general characteristics have been approved in the settlement agreement." After casting about for a way to violate that agreement, the Council, settled on asking for housing on a second floor. That should do it and maybe even kill the sale from CVS to Armstrong. *The legal ramifications of such an occurrence should be interesting. [Hmm, why is this old Ray Charles tune going through my mind?](#)
- The mayor will sign a letter to [Congressman Huffman](#) and [Congressman Thompson](#) supporting the passage of the (wait for it) **Federal Revenue-Neutral Carbon Free Dividend Program**. Fortunately for me, the [Press Democrat has an editorial explaining it here](#). The short version is that the oil companies are going to start sending you a check every month. But wait, there's more! Probably.

A Parting Shot:

- **Council Member Carnacchi**, going for a new record, pulled three items from the **consent calendar**. He finally agreed to all of them except removing the medians on Covert Lane. He feels it will speed up traffic and the cost (\$114,674) for the bike lanes is too much for the number of riders it will serve.

Elapsed Time: 3:45 hours (6:00–9:45pm)

Next City Council meeting is November 21, 2017 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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