



# 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 16 , 2019 – Synopsis and Commentary

A closed session at 5:00 pm concerning a “significant exposure to litigation” ran over so this meeting didn’t start until about 6:30 pm. All council members were present.

### Proclamations/Presentations:

- Douglas Buonaccorsi received an award for 30 years of service with the fire department.
- April 14-20 was proclaimed [National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week](#).

### Public Comment (aka Open Mike):

- A speaker for the skate park thanked the police for helping control some bad behavior there and had a few suggestions that might improve things in the future.
- Evidently the vice mayor is still in the process of burning the constitution. Steady does it. ([See last meeting’s public comments.](#))
- The EMF gadfly buzzed around and suggested the city should supply the police with silver lined mesh underwear to protect them from all their EMF equipment. Good idea. Chief Conner could model it at a council meeting providing his Glock was discreetly holstered.

### Consent Calendar: (\* Eventually Passed 5:0 after Council Member Carnacchi jerked a few items around to little effect.)

- The emergency proclamation of February 27, initiated because of the floods, was extended. “The purpose of a local emergency proclamation is to provide extraordinary police powers; immunity for emergency actions; authorize issuance of orders and regulations; activate pre-established emergency provisions; **and is a prerequisite for requesting state or federal assistance.**” The damage to Sebastopol Cultural Community Center, Park Village, Tomodachi Park, Clahan Park, Laguna Skate Park are beyond what the city can undertake so we may get some financial help with this extension.
- A vacancy 2019-21 seat on the [SCTA/RCPA Climate Action Advisory Committee](#) exists, so the city will start the recruiting process to fill it.
- The council adopted a resolution that will set the street lighting tax. This is an annual event. The proposed tax is \$33.14 per year per home, down \$3.36 from last year. This time next year we should see the full savings of the LED conversion.
- Because **the workload and responsibilities of the public works senior administrative assistant has increased**, tonight that position was raised to management analyst with a commensurate pay grade. **\*Council Member Carnacchi** pulled this one for discussion for reasons that defied all logic and broke several laws of the time space continuum. He folded like a wet beach blanket when, [after returning from Kokomo](#) , where he went for a short mental vacation, he finally got it. **Yo! Carnach this is nothing more than a promotion!**
- The council approved a resolution to send to the State of California a list of road related projects on our wish list in hopes of getting some grant money.

- The Bodega Avenue pedestrian improvements were accepted as complete by the city.
- A temporary use permit was approved for Good Run on May 3. It starts and finishes at The Barlow. [More information is here.](#) \* **Council Member Carnacchi** pulled this item ***because ONE constituent*** told him people were “puking” during the event. (In certain quarters of society, “puking” is sometimes discretely referred to as vomiting.) He was ready to **vote no** on this until virtually everyone in the chamber told him that was not the case and all the puking, barfing, hurling and cookie tossing takes place at the Apple Blossom festival where it belongs.

### **Public Hearings:**

- A telecommunications urgency ordinance was adopted, and it will metamorphize into regular ordinance in 30 days, emerging as a bad-ass barricade that will stymie the soulless, gratuity seeking FCC head, Ajit Pai, from allowing cell providers to hang their equipment where they please in our fair city – or not. The council believes the science regarding global warming but does not believe the science regarding the unlikely dangers of EMF, spent a lot of time talking about health – physical, not mental. Even during the Obama administration the FCC refused to entertain health as a criteria for regulating cell expansion. Getting into bed with the Luddites will only weaken our defense for local control. Unlike the last meeting, very few Luddites attended this one, leading an observer to conclude that the only thing they feel more dangerous to health than EMF is a city council meeting. They are still taking refuge under their beds, wrapped in foil and moaning regretfully as they suffer pangs very similar to bends. Rookies!

### **Regular Agenda Items:**

- A recent pedestrian safety survey was discussed. Cittaslow gave us one of those slide shows where the presenter reads aloud the text on the screen for those of us who either have poor reading skills and/or eyesight – both of which are starting to attract my attention. Anyway, using data that was gleaned from a whopping 3% of our population, Cittaslow did its usual data dump that involved ways to spend city money without doing any damage to its budget. The council tabled it. This for free: Since when is driving not enough – just do that. If you are unfortunate enough to be a vulnerable pedestrian, moving like an armadillo across a lonely desert road, assume the drivers don’t see you or if they do, they hate you. Simple.
- **Council Member Carnacchi** wanted to form a sub-committee to acknowledge the 100<sup>th</sup> year anniversary of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment, which will fall in August of 2020. That amendment says: “The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of **sex**.” (You know, if you go out to the internet and poke around a little, you may find you are not entirely in accord with the 19<sup>th</sup>.) It wasn’t real clear what Council Member Carnacchi’s goal was except maybe to make this meeting go on so long that it will find a place in the Guinness Book of Records. After sending up enough balloons to float a three-quarter ton pickup, he settled for Council Member Glass’ promise to put in a good word for him to sit on the county’s all-women 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment committee.
- **Council Member Carnacchi**, on a roll, called for a future joint City Council/Planning Commission meeting, but it met with some resistance from other council members when he couldn’t actually articulate what they were going to discuss. Mercifully it was tabled.
- **Council Member Carnacchi** wants to change the method by which an item gets placed on the agenda. This one boiled down to his not always getting on the agenda what he wants – including, but not limited to, a presentation on Abraham Lincoln’s boots. Actually it’s not a bad story but it’s also not appropriate for a council meeting. Have him tell it to you over lunch but make sure he picks up the tab.

**Closed Session:** Labor negotiations with city employees took place. Your council and city staff was still

working for you after 11:15pm after starting at 5:00 pm. It would have been much shorter if we could have found a way to reboot Council Member Carnacchi.

**A Parting Shot:**

- If, at around 11:00pm, **Council Member Gurney** says she just wants to give a quick Council Report, don't believe the "quick" part.

Elapsed Time: 4:45 hours (6:30–11:15pm)

Next City Council meeting is May 7, 2019, 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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