



# Sebastopol Citizens

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

## Sebastopol City Council Meeting August 2, 2016 – Synopsis and Commentary

Vice Mayor Glass was absent.

**Design Review Board Interviews** took place at 5:30. There were two applicants to replace the resigning Bill Shortridge. They were **Anthony Bryhan**, a registered Sebastopol voter for eight years and a retired metallurgy scientist and **Lars Langberg**, a registered Sebastopol voter for six months and an practicing architect. Only Mr. Bryhan was interviewed because Mr. Langberg was on vacation. **The Council appointed Mr. Langberg.** (4:0)

**The regular council meeting Started at 6:00pm**

### Proclamations/Presentations:

- A Certificate of Appreciation was awarded to outgoing Design Review Board Member Bill Shortridge.
- August was declared [Gravenstein Apple Month](#).
- September was declared School Attendance Awareness Month.
- A proclamation supporting [“Bloomin' Back Yards”](#) was read.
- August 7-13<sup>th</sup> was proclaimed [National Health Centers Week](#).

### Public Comment (aka Open Mike):

- No speakers.

### Consent Calendar:

- The Council approved requesting bids for required upgrades of ADA curb ramps along Highway 116. **This is for the engineering design only and the estimated cost is \$40,000.** CalTrans is planning to do some repaving and if the ramps are compliant it will restripe parts of 116 for bike lanes. (Approved without discussion 4:0)
- The Council also approved requesting bids for moving the sewer main that follows Zimpher Creek. Erosion over the years has exposed parts of the main and damaged the supporting soil structure. **The estimated cost (\$50,000)** for the engineering part of this project will give us some idea of the actual cost of moving the main. (Approved without discussion 4:0)
- Also approved, but with discussion, was the installation of 3 each 2700 Kelvin LED Cobra Head street lights at Soll Court across from Pacific Market, Gwendolyn Place near Litchfield Avenue and McKinley Street near the Rialto. This is a trial project only (from August 8<sup>th</sup> until November 1<sup>st</sup>) to discover if **they will be less deadly** than the soul destroying and free 4000 Kelvin lights that almost every other city in the PG&E area is enduring. Predictably, the Council **will not** install any 4000 Kelvin lights least they discover that **some citizens may not**

**object** to them. **The cost for the trial is \$1,585.**

- Some language changes were made to Memorandum of Understanding with the Police Officers Association to satisfy CalPERS. (Approved without discussion 4:0)

**Informational Items/ Presentation:**

- The [Sonoma County Health Action Cradle to Career](#) Program gave a presentation.

**Regular Agenda Items:**

- The Council discussed safety improvements at the Willow/Jewell intersection. After much discussion and with **Mayor Gurney** and **Council Member Eder** mesmerizing us all with their traffic engineering skills, the council voted 4:0 to award W-Trans **\$5,700** to have some professionals make a few recommendations of their own.

**City Council Reports:**

- There were a few but the best was a letter to the Mayor from someone who was evidently troubled by the **“Before I Die”** wall outside of [Toyworks](#). He wants the name changed to something like “While I Live and Love.” Really?

**A parting Shot:**

- This Willow/Jewell intersection thing is getting more interesting. It started off as a dangerous for driving issue but now has **mutated** into a pedestrian issue after the Chief of Police noted that there has only been **one very minor accident** there in 10 years. **Council Member Eder** and his wife, the one person who spoke about it at this meeting, both clearly want the right hand turn there to be eliminated. This may yet become another example of a **small group of people** pushing the Council into making a change that will impact a **large group of people**.

Elapsed Time: 2:10 (6:00 – 8:10)

Next City Council Meeting is September 6, 2016 at the Teen Center 425 Morris Street at 6:00 pm.

**John Necker**

[SebastopolCitizens.org](http://SebastopolCitizens.org)