



Sebastopol Citizens

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

Sebastopol City Council Meeting October 2, 2018 – Synopsis and Commentary

- All council members were present.

Proclamations/Presentations:

- October 14 through 20 was proclaimed [Freedom From Workplace Bullies Week](#).
- October was proclaimed Domestic Violence Awareness Month. [The YWCA of Sonoma County](#) has a [hot line at 707-546-1234](#).
- Years of Service Awards went to Kelley Kinoshita for five years with the fire department and to Andrew Bauer for five years with the police department.

Public Comment (aka Open Mike):

- A speaker who had been skeptical about the traffic improvements at Hwy. 12 and Ragle Rd. complimented the city on the work that was done there.
- Not so complimentary were five other speakers critical of the new bike lanes on Petaluma Avenue and [especially the maze](#) that starts just past The Feed Store. They cited increased parking difficulties for residences at Walker Avenue and the council's deference to a vocal minority of bike riders who are unlicensed and so aren't paying their fair share, and "sensory overload" at the maze.
- The next speaker blamed all of the bike lane problems on the Rothchilds who evidently have nothing better to do with their luxurious lives than to mess with the City of Sebastopol. And FYI, water doesn't come from rain. Oh no, that's fake science and the Rothchilds are probably involved in that deception too. Water perks up from the center of the earth and the water shortage claims are a myth. (Rothchilds?) The speaker also used the word "insanity" several times while that very word was also bouncing around in my brainpan. Coincidence?
- There was another call for no parking between the hours of midnight and 6:00 am on the camp grounds that used to be Morris Street. Buckets of waste continue to be dumped and the Little League Park has been vandalized. The council was urged to open Village Park, (aka Village Mobile Home Park) for overnight camping. Oh yeah, that's going to happen.
- The EMF lady really struck terror into our hearts this time. **Even she doesn't like the bike lanes.** But then she recovered as she started her stock EMF rant and rambled off the end of the pier of rationality and jumped into the deep end of delusion.
- **A comment from the mayor is as follows:**
Be a Student Ambassador to Japan! Sebastopol World Friends invites Sebastopol students and their families to learn about the sister city exchange program with Takeo, Japan. Students in the seventh and eighth grades attending a middle school in Sebastopol or living in Sebastopol are eligible to apply for the 2019-2020 cycle.
The application process and the hosting and travel overview are presented at informational meetings. Students and parents/guardians are both encouraged to attend meetings as follows:
- Thursday 10/4 at Twin Hills Middle School (6-7 pm) 1685 Watertrough Rd. Sebastopol

- Tuesday 10/9 at Brookhaven School (6-7 pm) 7905 Valentine Ave. Sebastopol
- Wednesday 10/10 at Analy High School Library (6-7 pm) 6950 Analy Ave. Sebastopol
- Thursday, 10/11 at Hillcrest Middle School (6-7 pm) 725 Bloomfield Rd., Sebastopol
- Financial assistance and a full scholarship are available
- For more information, visit www.sebastopolwf.org or contact takeo@sebastopolwf.org 707-484-0245.

Consent Calendar: (Passed 5:0 with no comment.)

- Staff will start the recruitment process for the planning commission to fill the seats of two sitting members (Zachary Douch and Michael Jacob) that will term out on December 31, 2018.
- The design review board has three seats terming out on the same day. They are Gregory Beale, Cary Bush and Ted Luthin. Look for the city to advertise those positions shortly.
- The city consented to accept \$7,973 from the Department of Forestry that will be spent on wildfire protective gear for all the volunteers in the department.
- In an effort to ease the homeless problem, the council authorized the mayor to submit an application for funds from [Sonoma County Continuum of Care \(CoC\) \(Homeless Emergency Aid Program \(HEAP\)\)](#). Sonoma County's share of this \$500 million dollar block grant is \$12,111,291.50. Well, we can continue to throw heaps of money at the physical aspects of the problem that will only continue to grow or we can focus more on determining its causes and *solve that problem.*

Public Hearing:

- Two items took up the bulk of the time. A public hearing was held regarding the zoning ordinance. [Click here to a summary on page 1.](#) (Heads up. It's 319 plus pages but loads quickly enough.) It was only slightly modified and will come back for a second reading and probably become law 60 days after that.
- The Zoning Map was approved unanimously with few changes.

Regular Agenda Items:

- Topics for 2019 Mayors and Council Members Association General Membership Meetings were discussed.

A Parting Shot:

- At the previous meeting the council ignored the complaints about Morris Street because no one showed up to complain. This week, five citizens showed up to complain about the bike lanes and they were ignored. Your council is nothing if not consistent.

Elapsed Time: 4:40 hours (6:00pm–10:40pm)

Next City Council meeting is October 16, 2018, at the Teen Center, 425 Morris Street at 6:00pm.

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

John Necker
SebastopolCitizens.org