

Sebastopol City Council Meeting – February 4, 2014 – Synopsis and Commentary

All Council members were present.

Again, **Mayor Jacob** asked us to turn off our electronic devices to spare those who are **EMF sensitive** and then we got down to business.

Proclamations:

Reserve police officers Donal Gylfe (5 years) and Brody Carlson, Sr. (15 years) were honored for their service to the community. These guys work part time for no pay, but have had all the training of a full-time officer. Now *THAT'S* community service.

Public Comment:

“Open mike night” started off with reruns by our perennial gadflies. Here's a sample:

- The drought is being managed by global villains
- Microwaves and weather are being used as military weapons
- Environmentalism is a cabal and up to no good
- There's geo-engineering going on in the skies

Another speaker wanted an old existing city ordinance banning fortune telling, magic, and card reading etc. repealed because she is, after all, magic. After listening to her, maybe it should be made a felony!

The bike lane advocate was back. Touting himself as an investigative/financial reporter, he demonstrated he was neither by getting his facts wrong and not being able to recognize the difference between a debit and a credit. With great authority he stated that the community wants bike lanes. My experience, on the other hand, indicates that residents of THIS community want level sidewalks and pothole-free streets first.

The **EMF/Tic** person thanked **Mayor Jacob's** [Peace In Medicine](#) for “sponsoring” her efforts. His Honor seemed to be preoccupied with some paperwork and so failed to acknowledge her.

Again, the sanest people at the podium were two young men asking for lights at the skate park.

Informational Items and Presentations:

Our **Outreach Coordinator** gave us an update on her efforts to improve our image in the media—if that is even possible. It was clear, concise and short. Leading by example!

The Superintendent of Public Works gave us an update on our **water situation**. In short, we are in excellent shape. Three wells are maintaining an even strain at about 30% of what they could produce. Contaminates are being filtered and there is **no fluoride** in our water. We don't need to conserve now but it can't hurt to start.

Discussion and Action Items:

Much like **marijuana and EMF**, everyone has data supporting their position on **fluoride**. The business at hand was to consider sending a letter to the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors supporting Cotati's opposition to fluoridation. The mayor even stated that was the only issue before the Council and they had no intention of fluoridating our water. (Actually we couldn't afford to.) He then read an email received from David Rabbitt, Second District Supervisor, asking the mayor to not send the letter until more information became available. That released an off gassing of protest from the anti-fluoride contingent (virtually everyone in the public) as they bemoaned the trampling of their constitutional right to free speech, the specter of fluoride in county water and various and sundry plots. The City will send the letter without having heard all the facts.

The City is working on updating its **Storm Water Ordinance**. Basically, only rain goes down the storm drain. **Council Member Eder** showed some mild trepidation about washing your car in public, and **Council Member Slayter** about the run off during fire fighting. **Council Member Kyes** asked who the enforcement officer was for such an ordinance. Relax, washing your car will be allowed as long as you use non-fluorinated water.

The **Laguna Vista Floral Survey** was kicked down the road until February 18th. (Is this starting to feel like déjà vu all over again to you?)

City Council Reports:

Two quick ones by Council Member Gurney and Mayor Jacobs.

Sitting there for over five hours watching the City staff patiently waiting, one wonders why the agenda can't be arranged so the mundane City business is scheduled first. Let all the drama queens sit and wait to be heard at 10:30pm or later.

This evening, when the gavel fell, they were already at home brushing their teeth with organic toothpaste.

Duration 5:15

John Necker