

Gautho, Julia

From: Bob Hickman <bobster1263@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, April 20, 2026 11:16 AM
To: City Council
Subject: Council member Melinda Orbach

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Dear Capitola City Council,

Please add the following to Agenda Item #5 Oral Communications by Members of the Public

I am writing with a concerning trend I am seeing with one of our current city council members Melinda Orbach.

Time and time again she has shown that she is not suited to sit on this city council and seems to be using it to push her own agendas and not that of the will of the city. She has also shown several episodes of immaturity that is not in align with a member of a leader of our city.

Examples are as follows

1. City Council meeting regarding Measure L. When she was told no that supporting measure L which was the will of the city voters meant that we would not support The Friends of Rail Trail Proposal of rebuilding the Stockton Bridge. She threw a little hissy fit and slammed herself back into her chair. Reminded me of a little toddler not getting her way.
2. Using her position on the Dias to call out a member of the community knowing that community member had no chance of responding to the slander due to public comment period being over.
3. Capitola Mall. Her husband wrote a complaint to the state of California. She then claims she had no idea what her husband was doing. She should recuse herself from all future matters pertaining to the mall project. Any reasonable person would question whose interest were being served hers acting for the city, or is she acting to please her spouse?
4. Using this last meeting to push her private agenda to move the county to pass a sales tax increase to help fund Metro. The sales tax measure increase is supposed to be a community lead measure of which she is part of. This is her private agenda it should not have been brought up in the city council meeting where now people might be thinking oh the City of Capitola supports this measure. It has been brought up as citizen measure to avoid the 2/3rds required vote and reduce to 51% to pass. Now she is making it into city sponsored. Thus, showing again she is out for her own personal agenda and not the City's agenda.
5. Finally, last Thursday's City Council meeting on April 9th when she was pushing her own agenda on the Stockton Bridge and she did not get her way, throwing herself back in her chair in a little hissy fit again, only this time she took it too far when she started cussing because she could not get her way repeatedly saying B.S. over and over again.

For a sitting council member sitting on the Dias to start swearing in a live and recorded meeting is completely unacceptable! Steps need to be taken as this is a clear violation of the code of conduct all council members must be held accountable to.

Melinda Orbach should resign from her seat since she seems to not be able to separate her private agendas from those as a council member who is supposed to be representing the voters. At the very least she needs to be censored due to her recent outburst!

A very concerned citizen of Capitola

Bob Hickman