

Gautho, Julia

From: TJ WELCH <noworries4tj@mac.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 21, 2024 3:18 PM
To: Gautho, Julia
Cc: City Council; Welch, Troy (TJ) (noworries4TJ@mac.com)
Subject: City Council public comment 11.21.24

Lack of trust in government is at an all time high, and the lack of trust for Capitola Staff and City Council is no exception. A few observations;

First, is the City's lack of integrity.

Measure O passed in 2012. 1.1 million a year with no sunset. You told us, it would be used for roads, but yet zero or very little Measure O funds have been used to repair or maintain our roads which are now in total disrepair. **Where is it all being spent?**

Measure F-passed in 2016 Long before the 2023 storm. You told us, it was to build a stronger and better wharf. No discussion ever to remove our restaurant. Over 8 million tax revenue yet you only spent 3.5 million for the repairs with no plan to replace the restaurant. **Where is it being spent?**

Measure Y-You tell us it was needed to give our employees a much needed raise, but since when do council members pet projects, capital improvements and community grants have a priority over employees wages and benefits? This is not the way a competent city develops a budget.

Measure L-Now known as City municipal code 8.72 was overwhelmingly passed by the residents. The City Manager, City Attorney, Mayor Brown and Council Member Pedersen, are all ignoring City law, and the will of our community. The City Manager and City attorney stating it is vague and therefore unconstitutional. Pretty interesting since you are the ones that actually wrote and approved the law.

Council Members have pushed their activists agendas by ignoring the residents for far too long. Issues like

- Bypassing our Planning Commission with the joint CDP
- Pushing the rail/trail through the City
- Making policy changes while hiding behind government speech.
- Calling our cops racists and,

- Not listening to the concerns of families regarding children, to name a few.

Now we embark on the new housing element. Where once again the Council and Staff are pushing an agenda based on a false narrative that will change our beach town forever.

Then you give Council Member Pedersen \$15,000 for his Non-Profit business “Fair Wages”. Council Member Pedersen, what have you done to help Capitola with the money? Actually, the entire premise of “Fair Wages” for small business is ludicrous. You will give a sticker to businesses, if they pay their employees \$36.64 per hour? What businesses in the village can pay all their employees \$36.64 per hour? And Where is the convection to give “Fair Wages” for your employees in the City?? I think you need to apologize to the public and refund our \$15,000.

It’s time that our City Manager and City Council set aside their biased politics and represent the residents of Capitola with transparency, integrity and honesty. You can start, by listening to the community tonight.

Respectfully,
TJ Welch