

The complaint against Councilmember Orbach

From Jennie Kulczyk <jkulczyk@gmail.com>
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To City Council <citycouncil@ci.capitola.ca.us>

Dear Capitola City Council,

I am very concerned about the complaint against Councilmember Orbach being presented as a public agenda item. Councilmember Orbach has already acknowledged that naming an individual was a mistake she will not repeat, she has demonstrated integrity by offering mediation multiple times through the Conflict Resolution Center, and she continues to show restraint in the face of relentless personal attacks. Instead of rewarding good-faith efforts at resolution, this Council is legitimizing harassment by agendizing a code of conduct complaint that has no merit. Continuing dialogue about this within public council meetings does not benefit the community - this kind of pot stirring rouses drama and schisms, which is the opposite of what we need for effective city leadership.

Councilmember Orbach described threatening behaviors accurately. She did not engage in name-calling, slander, or personal attacks—she simply set boundaries that any public servant has the right to establish. For that, she has been met with months of online vitriol, threats of litigation, and political intimidation. Capitola residents should not have to watch their representatives be silenced or driven out by those who would rather bully than engage in dialogue.

I urge you to dismiss this claim outright on September 25. Capitola needs leaders who protect truth and principle, not those who bow to intimidation. To punish Councilmember Orbach for demanding civility is to send the message that harassment works. That is not the Capitola I believe in, and I stand firmly with her.

Respectfully,
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