

**Gautho, Julia**

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**From:** Jack Brown <jack.b.brown@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 22, 2025 3:00 PM  
**To:** City Council; joeclarke@ci.capitola.ca.us  
**Subject:** Support for Accountability in Capitola City Council

Dear Mayor and Councilmembers,

I am writing to express my strong support for Kevin Maguire's Code of Conduct complaint and to urge the Council to uphold the standards of accountability and professionalism that our community deserves.

On multiple occasions, Councilmember Melinda Orbach used her position at the dais to publicly accuse Mr. Maguire of harassment and intimidation — serious charges made without evidence and in clear violation of Capitola's Code of Conduct. Rather than correcting the record, she repeated these claims and diverted Council business to pursue a personal attack on a private resident.

This conduct is especially concerning to me because I have personally experienced similar harassment from local rail activists. False allegations were made against me, and they even went so far as to contact my employer with fabricated claims that I was stalking, assaulting, and making racist statements. All of these were proven false, but the damage and stress caused by these tactics were very real. No resident should be subjected to this kind of behavior — and it is completely unacceptable when it comes from an elected official entrusted with representing our community.

The Capitola Code of Conduct explicitly prohibits personal charges, retaliatory conduct, and the misuse of official platforms for personal grievances. Councilmember Orbach's actions fall far short of these standards. This is not a matter of political disagreement but of maintaining the integrity of public office and ensuring that residents are treated fairly and respectfully.

I respectfully ask the Council to adopt a Resolution of Censure and require corrective actions. Doing so will send a clear message that Capitola values civility, fairness, and accountability in government, and that public officials must never weaponize their position to smear or intimidate private citizens.

Thank you for your attention and for standing for integrity in city government.

Respectfully,

Jack Brown  
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