

Gautho, Julia

From: chris amsden <amsdenfinance@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 23, 2025 12:50 PM
To: City Council
Subject: Agenda Item 9B

Hello Council Members,

I'm writing regarding the Code of Conduct complaint and item 9B on the 9/25 agenda. After reading through all of the correspondence submitted to the City Council, it appears that (once again) many of the letters are from non-Capitola residents. Further, most of those submitting letters were not at the April 17th city council meeting where Council Member Orbach described what she perceived as harassment and intimidation.

I was with Kevin Maguire on the day in question. We were canvassing. Simply handing out fliers. We distributed over 300 fliers to multiple neighborhoods that weekend and had conversations with dozens of citizens about the Capitola trestle and the rail-trail.

One of the letters submitted to the City Council states: "The facts are clear: Councilmember Orbach described threatening behaviors accurately". This is from a person that wasn't even there when Mr. Maguire was handing out his fliers. Many of the letters submitted to our City council had strikingly similar grammar and language. It appears that the rally cry went out to Mrs. Orbach's supporters to flood the City council with their sentiments of support based on hearsay.

This level of vitriol must stop.

We are a diverse community with a variety of opinions about what we want for Capitola. We elect our City council members to help us sort through these diverse opinions, and come together towards a common goal for the greater good of our community. It is important that our elected leaders listen to and hear the voices of their constituents to better understand what Capitolans want for our little beach town.

Whatever the decision is regarding Agenda Item 9B, I hope our City council will take this opportunity to clarify that in a town as small as Capitola, we are all neighbors. Those that don't share our opinion aren't our enemies. Let's stop pointing fingers and mud-slinging. We have important decisions to make for our community in the coming days, and we must find common ground in which to make these decisions.

Sincerely,

Chris Amsden
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