

Gautho, Julia

From: louis Cannarozzi <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 18, 2025 6:39 PM
To: City Council
Subject: Regarding Councilmember Orbach

Dear Capitola City Council,

I write today with deep disappointment that the Council has allowed a complaint of this nature to rise to the level of a public agenda item. To place Councilmember Melinda Orbach on trial for speaking openly about her perceived harassment and intimidation is not only absurd—it is an insult to every resident who expects their leaders to stand up for civil discourse, safety, and respect.

It appears that Councilmember Orbach has already acknowledged that naming an individual was a mistake she will not repeat, and her comments on April 17 were rooted in truth, transparency, and a mother's instinct to protect her family. In the political climate that we are all witnessing, a part of, or victim to, one must have the right to establish clear boundaries without fear of reprisal.

To de-escalate, provide clarity, and to listen, Melinda has demonstrated integrity by offering mediation multiple times through the Conflict Resolution Center. 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.

The facts are clear: Councilmember Orbach described perceived 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 attacks on her character and motives online, 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.

Respectfully,
Louis Cannarozzi

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