



January-February, 2020

The City of Sebastopol community newsletter is one way to stay in touch with what's going on in Sebastopol. Our web site, CityofSebastopol.org is another. It's chock-full of information on City services, public meetings, and community resources. Or, stop by City offices any time we are open!

James Conner and Glenn Schainblatt Retire

December 2019 brought two notable retirements of city officials: Sebastopol Police Chief James Conner and Sebastopol Building Official Glenn Schainblatt. Glenn has



been an employee with the City of Sebastopol since September 2004 and was recognized this past May for promoting public health and safety in building construction to protect the lives and property of the community. James became a part of the Sebastopol Police Department in 1996; rising through the ranks to Lieutenant and Captain before being appointed to Chief of Police in November 2017. The City thanks both retirees and wishes them well as they embark on their future endeavors.

Those Bike Lanes!

If you still have questions about bike lane use throughout the downtown area, there's a **new video** - <http://bit.ly/SebBikeLanes> out to help. The video was produced by W-Trans, the project contractor, and follows a group of cyclists as they navigate several routes through town.



Sebastopol's Free Electric Shuttle



Looking for a convenient, eco-friendly, and FREE way to get around town or to get your students to and from school? Don't forget about Sonoma County Transit's #24. The shuttle was the first electric bus in the SCT fleet, and thanks to underwriting by the City of Sebastopol, fares are free for all riders through June 2020. Hours have been expanded to accommodate school schedules. The #24 schedule can be found here <http://bit.ly/sct-shuttle24>

Passing the Mayoral Gavel

Welcome back Patrick Slayter as Sebastopol's Mayor. Slayter served a term as Sebastopol City Mayor in 2015. This year, he hopes to focus his efforts in community vitality through the development of a "citizen's academy", modeled after the Sebastopol Citizen's Police Academy, where the community will get the chance to learn more about how their local government works. In addition, he would like to create an open space for individuals to gather and learn about what's going on in the city by meeting with different councilmembers and department heads. Slayter was appointed mayor, alongside Una Glass as vice mayor, at the December 3, 2019 City Council meeting.



Upcoming Events

- Sebastopol Documentary Film Festival
March 26 - 29, 2020
Sebastopol Center for the Arts
- Community Awards
March 19, 2020
Veterans' Memorial Building
- Apple Blossom Festival
April 18 - 19, 2020

Business License Renewal Notices Delayed

If you have a business and are wondering why you have not received your annual business license renewal notice, as of press time, notices had not yet been sent, but renewals will still be due by January 31, 2020. The delay is due to revisions required to bring the notices into compliance with new state law SB205.



For more information, please contact Sebastopol Administrative Services Department at **707-823-7863**

Locals Who Make a Difference

Craig and Pat Boblitt are being recognized as the City's latest "Locals Who Make a Difference." The Boblitts are major supporters of the Sebastopol Community Cultural Center, Sebastopol Area Senior Center, and the Peacetown Summer Music Series. Craig, a board member of the Sebastopol Area Senior Center, was credited by the organization as having been instrumental in its transformation over the past two and a half years; in addition to lending his business expertise, he has chaired benefits, organized barbecues, and arranged for free space for the Holiday Pop-Up Store for four years. He attends meeting with funders and the City Council and assists at every open house, pot luck and dance. Pat's work and volunteerism have centered around families and children since the Boblitt's two sons were young. She has served on the Analy Education Foundation board, spent countless hours helping out with Analy High School's Project Graduation, and dove into writing a tax measure to support the Gravenstein School District. In recognition of her dedication to early childhood education, Pat was named Sonoma County Community Childcare Council's Early Childhood Champion of 2019. Learn more about Craig and Pat Boblitt on the city's [Locals Who Make a Difference](#) page where you can also make nominations for the next round of honorees.



Utility Rate Study

In order to provide necessary funding for the water and sewer system, the City is proposing to implement new water and sewer rates as a series of annual adjustments starting in January 2020, with additional increases following each July 1 beginning in 2020, until July 2023.

The proposed rates are based on a comprehensive rate study and financial plan. The rate study report can be found on our website at the following link: <http://bit.ly/Preliminary-Rate-Study-Report>

The City will annually review revenues and expenditures for the water fund to ensure that sufficient and appropriate revenues are collected to effectively provide for the short and long-term water service needs of the community.

The City will consider the new rate structure and proposed revenue increase at a public hearing on Tuesday, January 7th, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. at the Youth Annex Teen Center, 425 Morris Street, Sebastopol, CA 95472. You are invited to present oral or written testimony at the public hearing.

If you have any questions please feel free to call the City of Sebastopol Administrative Services (Finance) Department at **707-823-7863**



Zero-Waste Committee Updates

With the Polystyrene Ordinance officially in effect, Sebastopol's Zero-Waste Subcommittee has embarked on new projects to help reduce the amount of trash generated in Sebastopol. The ordinance, which prohibits the use and sale of disposable food service ware and other products containing polystyrene foam, has inspired the committee's youth representatives to develop a plan for a city-wide reusable coffee cup program. The committee is also looking at other areas that might benefit from a zero-waste approach, including working with local dentists on promoting the use of oral hygiene products that create less waste such as silk floss and tubeless toothpaste.

Events held within city limits are required to submit a [Special Event Permit Application - <http://bit.ly/SebSEpermit>](#) which was recently updated with new regulations. As part of the of the permit application, individuals planning to have food or beverage vendors or providers must submit a Zero Waste plan. While all events in Sebastopol are required to recycle and compost, if disposables are used, they need to comply with [City of Sebastopol Event Food Service Ware Requirements for Vendors](#) which can be found on pages 14-21 of the special event permit.

See our video to learn more about which items are and are not allowed in city limits under the new ordinance: <https://youtu.be/CVic5SWEFEU>

