

Weaver, Amber

From: Stacey Anderson <haywirefarm@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 12, 2025 10:13 AM
To: City Clerk
Subject: Tess

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

I am writing this email hoping it will reach our city council members and whomever else needs to hear my concerns.

After watching Tess Albin-Smiths comments and the way she conducted her self during the December meeting regarding Marsha I was appalled and greatly concerned.

I believe that she should step down from her position and absolutely should not be representing our community!

I personally do not want anyone that talks or conducts themselves like that representing myself or our community.

If test does not step down, I feel that we should do the necessary steps for a recall.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely

Stacey Anderson

4th generation resident
Owner Haywire Inc and Anderson Logging

Sent from my iPhone

Weaver, Amber

From: Tina Sutherland <tsuth7@hotmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 12, 2025 10:11 PM
To: City Clerk
Subject: Resignation request of Tess Albin-smith

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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To City Of Fort Bragg City Council members,
My name is Tina Sutherland I was born in Fort Bragg and am a Tribal Member of the Sherwood Valley Band of Pomo Indians and a Tribal Council member of the Sherwood Valley Tribe. I am writing to request the resignation of Tess Albin-Smith for her outrageous, and untrue remarks regarding Marcia Rafanan and her position on City Council. Marcia not only is an honest, but hardworking Woman who represents Indigenous woman from every nation and she makes me proud every single day. I feel that Marcia wrongfully judged by Tess who clearly has no idea what Marcia represents or who.

Thank you, Tina Sutherland

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone
Get [Outlook for Android](#)

Weaver, Amber

From: Robin Scaramella <robinscaramella25@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 12, 2025 1:28 PM
To: City Clerk
Subject: Public comment Jan.13

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

I'm writing this letter in regards to recent remarks made against Marsha Rafanan regarding her being vice mayor. I've known Marsha for over 40 years. She is a hard worker, who has been a manager of 2 restaurants, currently working 2 jobs and raising her two kids.

Marsha is a strong minded person, anything she puts her mind to do she will do it, no one can change her mind. She is a strong advocate for the Pomo Indian tribe, she works hard as a counsel member because she cares about the people of Fort Bragg and their needs. I feel she will be a great vice Mayor, and did not deserve to have appalling and disgusting remarks about her character, that is someone who isn't qualified for the job. In closing, if I ever needed anyone to advocate for me it would be Marsha.

Thank you, Robin Scaramella

Weaver, Amber

From: Judith Valadao <j.valadao@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Sunday, January 12, 2025 2:12 PM
To: City Clerk
Subject: Public comment for Jan. 13

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

To Mayor Godeke, Vice Mayor Rafanan, Council Members, City Manager and Staff

I apologize for writing this comment at this late date but was not available for the last meeting due to being hospitalized in Santa Rosa. However, I do not think it's ever too late to speak out against bullying, insulting and downright being rude to a fellow council member. Tess Albin Smith made comments directed toward fellow council member Marcia Rafanan that should never be tolerated. This was in a public setting and was a sure sign (in my opinion) of anger and resentment directed toward Marcia Rafanan.

During her so called "apology" Tess stated she was comparing Marcia's experience to council member Lindy Peters. I believe even that statement was a farce. Her hateful statements were prewritten and I believe she intended to read it (which she did) just in case she did not get the Vice Mayor seat (which she did not). Bottom line is, she was comparing Marcia to herself not to Lindy Peters as stated in the "apology."

Tess Albin Smith appears to think very highly of herself while looking down on others. Our City does not need this type of thinking overlooking the good of ALL in the community. Tess Albin Smith should resign immediately but a person with an over exaggerated feeling of self importance will never do that. In my opinion she isn't thinking of what is best for our community as a whole but instead thinking only of her holding onto the position of council member at any cost.

Her continued presence on the council will be nothing but a distraction to the good work the city needs to accomplish, as this issue is not going away.

Judy Valadao

Weaver, Amber

From: Paula & Kathy Christensen <cleonegardensinn@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 12, 2025 5:21 PM
To: City Clerk
Subject: Public Comment for Jan 13

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

My name is Paula Christensen. I am an owner of Cleone Gardens and have been for twenty years. I'm writing in support of our new Vice Mayor, Marcia Rafanan. I have known Marcia since we were kids. I grew up with Marcia and her brothers and sisters. I've seen Marcia in many roles in our community; anyone who knows Marcia knows she is a diverse representation of our Fort Bragg residents, not only as a strong single mother but also as an honest, hard-working member of this community. She represents her tribal community in a positive, empowering way. To claim otherwise is wrong. To say that she is weak and swayed by others is laughable. She is a leader and always has been.

Tess Albin Smith was out of line in the December 9, 2024 council meeting. She showed her bigoted views against Marcia and her education, economic status, and ethnicity. This kind of hate should not be tolerated. Tess gave a half-apology by saying she apparently offended Marcia but never used the words "I'm sorry." Other than to the Mayor, by saying, "I'm sorry, Mayor." Not only did Tess offend Marcia Rafanan, but she also offended the city of Fort Bragg and the surrounding community. Tess is only sorry for getting called on the carpet for her hateful rhetoric. She has yet to give a sincere apology. Hate and ignorance should not be accepted, and Tess Albin Smith should resign!

Thank You

Weaver, Amber

From: Sherie Mottlow <bellaboobs@icloud.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 7, 2025 6:01 PM
To: City Clerk
Subject: Public comment January 13 meeting

Dear Council members ,

As a resident of Fort Bragg, I was in disbelief watching the council meeting in Jan. What should have been welcoming of our new Council member Hockett and planning commissioner Bushnell turned into an ugly display of narcissist behaviors by two Council members.

An apology by both should happen at our next meeting.

However Tess Albin-Smith's comments and behavior were beyond acceptable. Her pre-written words and then pre-written apology at the following meeting were both ridiculous and out of touch. This is not what our community is about, and it shouldn't be represented by people with such behaviors. Tess Albin-Smith should resign. This issue will not go away and her continuing to be on Council will be nothing but a distraction for the long term when you have many important projects and plans to discuss and vote on in the future.

She must step down.

Sent from my iPhone

Thank you

Sherie Saunders Mottlow

Weaver, Amber

From: JULIE MCHENRY <juliemchenry@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, January 7, 2025 3:28 PM
To: City Clerk
Subject: Public Comment for Council Meeting January 13, 2025

To: Fort Bragg City Council.

This letter is to request Tess Albin Smith to resign from the City Council. Her racist and demeaning statements directed at Council Member Marsha Rafanen is unforgivable. Tess Albin Smith should hold no position in City Government.

Thank you,

Julie McHenry

Fort Bragg

Weaver, Amber

From: gkoski2000 <gkoski2000@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 12, 2025 11:29 AM
To: City Clerk
Subject: Public comment for January 13th

I am writing to express my concern about the statement that Tess Albin-smith had written about Marcia and read at the Dec 9th city council meeting. She had written her statement in advance criticizing Marcia about her abilities for being vice Mayor of our beautiful town. She held her previously written out statement until she feared she would not become Mayor or vice mayor, and then decided to read her previously written out statement to try to sway other council members away from voting in Marcia as vice mayor, not realizing the backlash that would follow. If the backlash had not occurred Tess would have went on like nothing had happened, and she never would have apologized, she only did so because she felt she had to save her seat on the city council. Her statement was disgusting and only meant to harm Marcia and to try to insure that Marcia would not be selected for a higher position on the council. Tess Albin-smith does not represent me or my values. her statement was hurtful and full of fallacies I would like to ask Tess Albin-smith to step down from her position on city council. Her written out statement about Marcia was self serving and an attempt to derail any chance of Marcia being vice mayor we do not need council members that are so callous, self serving and rude towards other members of the council.

Sincerely, Gary koski
Sent from my U.S.Cellular© Smartphone

Weaver, Amber

From: Celeste Fillmore <celestefillmore41@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, January 13, 2025 7:09 AM
To: City Clerk
Subject: Public comment for Jan 13 council meeting

Greetings

I hope this finds you well and in good spirits. The purpose of this correspondence is to respectfully demand council member Tess Albin-Smuth to resign her position and step down from being a city council member for Fort Bragg. I watched her abhorrent remarks with regard to fellow city council member Marcia Rafanan assuming the position of vice-mayor. Her remarks were uncalled for and completely unacceptable to have been said out loud during a public forum. When it comes to city matters I'd rather hear facts and not baseless opinions like hers.

Step down Tess.
Celeste Fillmore
Born and raised in Fort Bragg with Marcia.

Sent from my iPhone

Weaver, Amber

From: Anna Marie Stenberg <ams@mcn.org>
Sent: Tuesday, January 7, 2025 11:03 PM
To: City Clerk
Subject: To the city council member for the Jan 13 meeting

Dear Council members

I am appalled at the bullying and public racist, derogatory, and demeaning words used by Tess and directed at another council member at both meetings. It is obvious that Tess did not speak these words off the cuff. THEY WERE WRITTEN. That makes it even worse. Tess thought through what she was going to say. That makes it unethical and not excusable. For the good of Fort Bragg she needs to resign. Please ask her to step down. Thank you

Anna Marie Stenberg

iPhone

Munoz, Cristal

From: Lisa D Walker <feather@mcn.org>
Sent: Monday, January 6, 2025 5:53 PM
To: City Clerk
Subject: Public comment for Jan 13

Regarding December 13th's Special Meeting and Tess Albin-Smith's "apology" to Marcia Rafanan:

- 1). "Comparatively limited experience" -- how else is she going to *get* experience?! You're so out of touch with reality, that you can't even remember when there was a female Vice Mayor within the last twenty years.
- 2). Your words weren't just "Poorly worded," they were outright and blatantly racist and derogatory. How does one "richly word" those kinds of racist comments?

Tess Albin-Smith *needs to resign*. Save the City of Fort Bragg the money and just leave.

Lisa Walker, Fort Bragg, CA

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Munoz, Cristal

From: Rachel Moilanen <moilanenrachel@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 6, 2025 10:20 PM
To: City Clerk
Subject: City council

To whom it may concern,

I am a 4th generation local to Fort Bragg, CA. I went to school here with Marcia Rafanan. She is and has always been a strong, smart, and astute individual. She is a great representative of the community of Fort Bragg with morals and ethics. Our town is diverse, and while there are some with money, there are also locals that struggle. She sees that and speaks for them. She has the innate ability to gather the community together and to plan for events. In my eyes She has been a great community leader.

Tessa Albin Smith, on the other hand, is not. I can not say these things of her. Her words for Marcia were demoralizing, callous, and inaccurate. We again are a diverse community. The integrity of Fort Bragg does not have room for bullying. This behavior is deplorable, and she is not the type of person who should be seated on our city council.

I would like to ask Tess Albin Smith to resign. Her continued presence on council will only be a distraction.

Thank you for your time,
A lifelong community member,

Rachel Moilanen

Munoz, Cristal

From: Scott Taubold <staubold9818@att.net>
Sent: Sunday, January 12, 2025 1:06 PM
To: City Clerk
Subject: Public Comments city counsel meeting 1/13.

Mayor, and City Council members,

I must re-iterate that I was horrified when viewing the video of councilperson Tess Albin Smith insulting fellow councilperson Marsha Rafanen utilizing racist and demeaning statements. I was aghast considering all of Smith's previous experience with these very issues in her position on our city's council, followed by her hollow and insincere apology to councilperson Rafanen. As a previous candidate or city council, I find it unforgivable that Smith would stoop this low during an emotional outburst. Smith should hold no position in governing our already challenged City. Challenged by would-be name changers who could site this as an example of the people here that she is supposed to represent! Smith should step down and save our city the cost of reprimanding her for these inexcusable actions. Sincerely, and awaiting a petition if need-be.

Scott Taubold, Ph.D.

Munoz, Cristal

From: Sherie Mottlow <bellaboobs@icloud.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 7, 2025 6:01 PM
To: City Clerk
Subject: Public comment January 13 meeting

Dear Council members ,

As a resident of Fort Bragg, I was in disbelief watching the council meeting in Jan. What should have been welcoming of our new Council member Hockett and planning commissioner Bushnell turned into an ugly display of narcissist behaviors by two Council members.

An apology by both should happen at our next meeting.

However Tess Albin-Smith's comments and behavior were beyond acceptable. Her pre-written words and then pre-written apology at the following meeting were both ridiculous and out of touch. This is not what our community is about, and it shouldn't be represented by people with such behaviors. Tess Albin-Smith should resign. This issue will not go away and her continuing to be on Council will be nothing but a distraction for the long term when you have many important projects and plans to discuss and vote on in the future.

She must step down.

Sent from my iPhone

Thank you

Sherie Saunders Mottlow

Munoz, Cristal

From: Sarita Colberg <srcolberg@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Monday, January 13, 2025 2:36 PM
To: City Clerk
Subject: public comment for Jan 13th CC meeting

To whom it may concern,

Tess is out of touch with our residents, our city and seemingly reality. Her treatment of Marcia was an embarrassment to us all; her hate isn't welcome here. Even her half hearted apology was so out of touch she seemingly forgot she sat next to a female vice-mayor for two years. Tess needs to resign and let someone who is paying attention to our community take her CC seat.

Thank you,
Sarita Colberg

Munoz, Cristal

From: Tabetha Connell <connelltabetha@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 13, 2025 2:55 PM
To: City Clerk
Subject: Public comment

I do not feel good about Tess Albin Smith continuing to hold a role on the City Council. I would like her to step down rather than the City pay for a recall.

I have seen Marcia work the frontlines in cleaning up a major fentanyl problem. She helped our youth in the Big Brothers Big Sisters program. As others have stated she worked with the mentally disabled. And as she herself stated "we need more for our community than just walking trails".

Marcia gives hope to those of us in the community that may not have had some of the privileges that others on city council have had. I feel that Tess spoke to a whole community of people when she put down Marcia. I am a part of that community. I am a mother. I am a worker. I don't have a lot of experience with public speaking.

Tess has spent her years on the city council and now it is time for retirement. We need fresh ideas, compassion, empathy, and people that would never say the things that were said that required an apology.

Sincerely, Tabetha Connell