

Public comment
1-7-2025

Welcome Dale and any new Council members, we hope and trust that your terms will be prosperous and ones of remembering that your primary function is to protect our rights. Everything else is secondary. And that the illusion of power can be very seductive.

We want to acknowledge that we do not hate the police. We acknowledge that Chief of Police Paul Tomasi and his police department have inserted themselves into dangerous situations, and Officers Michael Bruno and Jacob Clifford helped stop a teenager a few years back from committing suicide. These acts of bravery must be recognized and we have gratitude for the great things they have done.

Some people last month said the siege of our beach wasn't important anymore, because it was ancient history. Duty compels us to explain why it is as important today, as it was back then: because it was not just the siege of our beach, there were also the curfews imposed upon grown adults, the shuttering of our businesses we had taken years to build, and a police force was sent to our job sites to stop us from working so we could feed our families, when your gravy train of bloated tax payer funded salaries, never missed a beat. As a reminder, those responsible were Jan Reimers, Carrie Theiss, Dave Potter, Chip Rerig, Jeff Baron, and Chief of Police Paul Tomasi of Carmel by the Sea, CA.

If you need any proof that back then and obviously today, they regard themselves as monarchs, we would like to read to you how the police described the two people that tried to enjoy Carmel Beach in 2020, which they wrote in their reports:

(quote) "I spoke with the **SUBJECT**, and she wished to express her disagreement with the beach being closed.

"Carmel units were notified of a male **SUBJECT** with a dog." (End quote)

It is even embedded in the language they use to talk about us, that we have been denigrated to "subjects" and not the authors and source of government.

Last month, a caller explained that his father had died because of the restrictions, or unlawful dictates, or whatever you want to call them, that were imposed upon the country by agents just like you. He explained that his wife had lost her business. He said countless people had lost their businesses because of your policies and asked if you had any idea the amount of trauma you had caused. Despite that a large portion of the City Council meeting people were

made up of people calling in to explain the devastation that had befallen us because of your policies, FOUR YEARS LATER, and showing you photos of actual violence, Bobby Richards not only laughed at us for most of the meeting, but he sat there and shook his head in smug, arrogance in response to that caller, showing he was utterly unconcerned as to what our City Council had done to us. Despite the fact that in an article from the Carmel Pine Cone from October in 2020, Richards boasted that, (quote) “having empathy in leadership, allows him to ‘listen to their problems and concerns.’” And his “strong sense of loyalty makes him a good leader.” (End quote).

Two callers last month asked if any of you would like to apologize for what you had inflicted on us, and you offered us nothing. To then, have Mayor Dave Potter, just a few days later on December 9th, say, (quote) “he couldn’t be too full of himself, to not admit that he made a mistake.” (End quote) Perhaps you’ve gone on way too long, believing that We, the People weren’t watching.

Because despite the people showing the Council members, Jeff Baron, Bobby Richards, Dave Potter and Alissa Dramov, actual photographic proof of the violence that Rerig’s choices had inflicted upon the people he swore to protect that arrived here for the Fourth of July weekend, after being invited by Rerig to do so, YOU, Alissa, and YOU Jeff, showed how worthy of derision that violence was, and your complete lack of regard for our dignity, when you extended Rerig’s contract and dumped even more of our money into his bank account in THE VERY SAME MEETING. This was not only dishonorable, but foolish, politically speaking.

As you were clearly not listening to us, here’s yet another reminder, of what your City Manager, Chip Rerig did when on June 17, 2020 in a vlog, he encouraged people to attend a celebration in Devendorf Park on June 20, and this is a photo of that celebration: people crammed into a space, I don’t know, there’s gotta be hundreds of us here, which is great, because that is the right of We, the People, which Rerig admitted in that same vlog, was because of that quote “pesky little First Amendment, the right to gather.” That may have been interpreted as sarcasm, but in light of what happened a mere two weeks later, it should be interpreted as truthful.

Because for the Fourth of July weekend, that “pesky little First Amendment, the right to gather” was “so pesky” it was rendered a privilege, when it was yanked out from underneath us, by those that carried on as though they were our Lords and masters. Because as Bobby Richards said, “they were blocking all the entrances to the beach” and Chief of Police Paul Tomasi said in an interview that, (quote) “We tried repeatedly to get him to comply and leave the beach. He refused. He refused to talk to us, he just kept walking, so when we did get out to have a face-to-face with him, he ended up fighting with our officers.” As a reminder Chief Tomasi, that was that man’s right, and you had no authority to kidnap him and force him to comply with an unlawful dictate by an unelected politician.

So what happened exactly, why was this encouraged, and yet this man attacked for exercising THE EXACT SAME RIGHT? (hold up both posters) In fact, HE WASN’T EVEN GATHERED, AROUND ANYBODY?! He was all alone. Perhaps at least a part of it, is embedded in your language: We are not your SUBJECTS, but your bosses. And our rights belong to us, and they will never belong to you.

And why is this still as important today, as it was back then. Because NO ONE has ever atoned for these hypocrisies, for these crimes, threats, extortions, violence against the People, imposing curfews, and stopping us from working so we could feed our families. NOT A SINGLE COUNCIL MEMBER SINCE. Not Jan Reimers, Dave Potter, Carrie Theiss, Jeff Baron, Karen Ferlito or Alissa Dramov, has denounced any of it. Not only have they not atoned, but YOU, ALISSA DRAMOV, AND YOU, JEFF BARON Dave Potter and Bobby Richards, didn’t even have the propriety to consider, that maybe you shouldn’t dump more of our money into Rerig’s bank account after you were showed evidence of the violence Rerig inflicted on his fellow man, and his neighbors.

It was bad optics. Maybe it was going to hurt your political careers even to be this self-serving, that this wasn’t going to look good for the community, for the country. BUT YOU JUST DIDN’T CARE. You made it clear, you think so little of us, you hold our opinions and airing of grievances to be a contemptible affair. How little respect, you Jeff Baron and Alissa Dramov showed for us. You rewarded Rerig with a raise, and extended his contract, the Fourth time since

he was responsible for the siege of Carmel Beach. I mean, what exactly is going on here? Quoted in the Carmel Pine Cone:

“You all took turns praising Rerig.

Potter told Rerig he is “grateful for all his hard work. To keep it up. Don’t give up.”

Alissa Dramov said (quote) “she appreciated Rerig because he is on duty 24/7. And it can be a thankless job.” (End quote).

Jeff Baron, said (quote) “much of the City Administrator’s hard work, goes unseen by the public. (End quote) (Hold up photo of Jay). You cannot define this as unseen Jeff, because this was showed to you for an extended period of time. How can you say this was unseen, and then give him even more of our money. Of this man’s money?

And you are aware, that the country is now watching. That we, the people were none too pleased with the obvious contempt you had for our well being, when we aired our grievances, when some of them even included violent attacks.

We have sued you. Your attorneys, screwed up so bad it’s possible this case is unprecedented, and yet you plowed along giving him four raises since, and this is one of the reasons for why this must continue to be discussed. Maybe things will change, now that you know you are being watched. Maybe, that will align those of you up there, Baron, Dramov, back to your primary functions. It is unfortunate, it must be a public reckoning that would cause you to stop acting like our monarchs, rather than our humble servants. We have hope for you Dale, that when your fellow Council members and Rerig pressure you into making tyrannical decisions, you will remember the words we speak here today, so as to remain strong and honorable, and who is in charge.

And to all of you: Do the right thing. Stop giving this man more of our money when we’ve clearly given you incontrovertible evidence that he thinks nothing of hurting us. **AND TERMINATE HIS CONTRACT ALREADY!**

We, the People demand an apology from all the Council members - to be issued at once, to the peaceful man walking his dog, and a statement to the Carmel Pine Cone, that this type of violence, this type of tyrannical overreach with curfews, forcing the elderly and terminally ill to die alone separated from their loved ones, and the dystopian nightmare infused with such

propaganda terms as “flattening the curve” that we were told was going to last two weeks, and “social distancing”, WILL NEVER AGAIN BEFALL YOUR PEACEFUL NEIGHBORS. You do not have the authority to tell us how close we can stand to one another. And you never will. An publicly issued apology is the least of what is owed to us.

The People have spoken.