

**SUPPLEMENTAL REPORTS & COMMUNICATIONS II**  
**Office of the City Clerk**

**City Council of the City of Napa**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**June 23, 2020**

**FOR THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NAPA:**

**EVENING SESSION:**

**14. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

- Email from Jan Kane received on June 23, 2020. \*
- Email from Margaret Wigger received on June 23, 2020.

**15. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:**

**15.A. Napa Police Department Use of Force Policy**

- Email from Jessica Di Gregorio received on June 23, 2020. \*
- Email from Erin Gulbransen received on June 23, 2020. \*
- Email from Erin Gulbransen received on June 23, 2020.
- Email from Amy Martenson on behalf of Napa County Progressive Alliance received on June 23, 2020.\*
- Email from Jess Raphael received on June 23, 2020.\*

***\*EMAIL OR HANDWRITTEN COMMENTS WILL BE READ INTO THE RECORD BY CITY STAFF  
DURING THE MEETING.***

**From:** [sweetkane55](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** Comments to Council for June 23 2020, Meeting ( please read at 630pm  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 23, 2020 6:01:49 PM

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[EXTERNAL]

Doris Gentry will do and help in any way she can as Mayor of Napa, she is Honest and Loyal, she helped myself get into apartment when i needed a place to live, Thank you Doris Gentry for your support, Jan Kane

Sent from my Galaxy Tab® A

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Margaret Wigger <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 23, 2020 8:00 PM  
**To:** Clerk  
**Subject:** Re: COMMENT TO COUNCIL FOR JUNE 23, 2020 MEETING - PLEASE READ

**Categories:** Unverified Contact

[EXTERNAL]

Hello,

I'm afraid that my personal comment was not read today. I did submit (and resubmit) a statement on behalf of PFLAG Napa, but I also submitted (and resubmitted) a personal statement. I understand that it could have gotten lost since I resubmitted it, but I did receive confirmation that it would be read today at the 3:30 meeting, but I don't believe it was, and it was not read in tonight's 6:30 session. If possible, I would still like for it to be read, so I'll copy and paste that here. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Hello City Council members,

My name is Margaret Wigger, and I'm a lifetime resident of Napa. I'm writing to you tonight to express my personal anger and disappointment in council member and 2020 mayor candidate, Doris Gentry, regarding her anti-LGBTQ rhetoric, censoring of community members, and associations with community agitator, Ben Bergquam.

Over the last week, videos have surfaced from a campaign fundraiser for Gentry, where Ben Bergquam spoke on her behalf. Bergquam is an affiliate of the Proud Boys, which according to the Southern Poverty Law Center, is a hate group. Bergquam is easily found in multiple videos threatening and inciting violence in multiple communities - including Napa's just this last Wednesday at the "We Back Blue" rally. I ask this of everyone on City Council, why is it that none of you have publicly acknowledged and apologized for this man's presence in Napa (until Mary Luro's comment this afternoon)? Why has no one acknowledged that he has been allowed to harass our community, potentially incite violence, and cause harm to Napa's people of color on multiple occasions?

Gentry's words and actions are damaging to so many in our community. She has laughed about LGBTQ issues, been grossly misinformed about the purpose of racial justice in this country, and is purposely trying to silence people's voices in Napa. Over the weekend, she blocked me from her Facebook page and began deleting comments from other community members, which are direct violations of the First Amendment according to the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals.

In the video from Doris' campaign fundraiser last year, she mentioned that she was being "viciously attacked" for her "no" vote to flying the LGBTQ flag on the same pole as the U.S. flag. *You are not being attacked.* You are being held *accountable* for your actions as an elected public official who is meant to act with the intention of protecting all of Napa's residents. Do you know who was viciously attacked? Mathew Sheppard when he was beaten for being gay and left for dead in a Wyoming field. Black transwomen who were beaten and arrested for protesting police brutality at Stonewall. The 49 predominantly Latinx LGBTQ lives that were lost to gun violence at the Pulse Nightclub in Orlando. Our vulnerable populations have been and are still being attacked to this day. Your words and actions have power, and when you make jokes or flippant comments about these issues, it shows that you don't take them seriously. For some, this could be life-or-death; but to you, it seems like a joke.

To Doris Gentry, I want to believe that you care about the well-being of everyone in our community, but your actions don't reflect your statements. I hope that you take the time to reflect on your actions, and how you can become a better ally to everyone in this community in the future. To the rest of City Council, please hold each other accountable, and work towards a more inclusive future for Napa Valley.

Thank you,  
Margaret Wigger

On Tue, Jun 23, 2020 at 3:16 PM Margaret Wigger <[REDACTED]> wrote:  
Thank you!

On Tue, Jun 23, 2020 at 3:14 PM Clerk <[clerk@cityofnapa.org](mailto:clerk@cityofnapa.org)> wrote:

We will read this revised comment at 3:30 pm

Thank you,

## **Caitlin Saldanha**

### **Deputy City Clerk**

City of Napa – City Hall – City Clerk's Office

955 School Street, Napa, CA 94559

**Phone** (707) 258-7870

**Email** [csaldanha@cityofnapa.org](mailto:csaldanha@cityofnapa.org)

**Website** [www.cityofnapa.org](http://www.cityofnapa.org)



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**From:** Margaret Wigger <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 23, 2020 3:14 PM  
**To:** Clerk <[clerk@cityofnapa.org](mailto:clerk@cityofnapa.org)>  
**Subject:** Re: COMMENT TO COUNCIL FOR JUNE 23, 2020 MEETING - PLEASE READ

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[EXTERNAL]

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Hello City Council members,

My name is Margaret Wigger, and I'm a lifetime resident of Napa. I'm writing to you tonight to express my personal anger and disappointment in council member and 2020 mayor candidate, Doris Gentry, regarding her anti-LGBTQ rhetoric, censoring of community members, and associations with community agitator, Ben Bergquam.

Over the last week, videos have surfaced from a campaign fundraiser for Gentry, where Ben Bergquam spoke on her behalf. Bergquam is an affiliate of the Proud Boys, which according to the Southern Poverty Law Center, is a *white supremacist hate group*. Bergquam is easily found in multiple videos threatening and inciting violence in multiple communities - including Napa's just this last Wednesday at the "We Back Blue" rally. I ask this of everyone on City Council, why is it that none of you have publicly acknowledged and apologized for this man's presence in Napa? Why has no one acknowledged that he has been allowed to harass our community, potentially incite violence, and cause harm to Napa's people of color on multiple occasions?

Gentry's words and actions are damaging to so many in our community. She has laughed about LGBTQ issues, been grossly misinformed about the purpose of racial justice in this country, and is purposely trying to silence people's voices in Napa. Over the weekend, she blocked me from her Facebook page and began deleting comments from other community members, which are direct violations of the First Amendment according to the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals.

In the video from your campaign fundraiser last year, you mentioned that you were being "viciously attacked" for your "no" vote to flying the LGBTQ flag on the same pole as the U.S. flag. *You are not being attacked*. You are being held *accountable* for your actions as an elected public official who is meant to act with the intention of protecting all of Napa's residents. Do you know who was viciously attacked? Mathew Sheppard when he was beaten for being gay and left for dead in a Wyoming field. Black transwomen who were beaten and arrested for protesting police brutality at Stonewall. The 49 predominantly Latinx LGBTQ lives that were lost to gun violence at the Pulse Nightclub in Orlando. Our vulnerable populations have been and are still being attacked to this day. Your words and actions have power, and when you make jokes or flippant comments about these issues, it shows that you don't take them seriously. For some, this could be life-or-death; but to you, it seems like a joke.

To Doris Gentry, I want to believe that you care about the well-being of everyone in our community, but your actions don't reflect your statements. I hope that you take the time to reflect on your actions, and how you can become a better ally to everyone in this community in the future. To the rest of City Council, please hold each other accountable, and work towards a more inclusive future for Napa Valley.

Thank you,  
Margaret Wigger

On Tue, Jun 23, 2020 at 3:10 PM Clerk <[clerk@cityofnapa.org](mailto:clerk@cityofnapa.org)> wrote:

Margaret,

Please submit revision ASAP and clarify if you want read during afternoon or evening session. Staff is heading into the Council Chambers now.

Thank you,

**Caitlin Saldanha**

**Deputy City Clerk**

City of Napa – City Hall – City Clerk’s Office

955 School Street, Napa, CA 94559

**Phone** (707) 258-7870

**Email** [csaldanha@cityofnapa.org](mailto:csaldanha@cityofnapa.org)

**Website** [www.cityofnapa.org](http://www.cityofnapa.org)



**From:** Margaret Wigger <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 23, 2020 3:09 PM  
**To:** Clerk <[clerk@cityofnapa.org](mailto:clerk@cityofnapa.org)>  
**Subject:** Re: COMMENT TO COUNCIL FOR JUNE 23, 2020 MEETING - PLEASE READ

[EXTERNAL]

Would it be possible to resubmit my statement with a revision?

On Tue, Jun 23, 2020 at 2:58 PM Clerk <[clerk@cityofnapa.org](mailto:clerk@cityofnapa.org)> wrote:

Greetings,

The Clerk's Office is confirming receipt of your comments below. Your email will be read into the record at evening session of the June 23, 2020 City Council meeting since we already received comments for the afternoon session.

Thank you!

**Caitlin Saldanha**

**Deputy City Clerk**  
City of Napa – City Hall – City Clerk's Office

955 School Street, Napa, CA 94559

**Phone** (707) 258-7870

**Email** [csaldanha@cityofnapa.org](mailto:csaldanha@cityofnapa.org)

**Website** [www.cityofnapa.org](http://www.cityofnapa.org)



**From:** Margaret Wigger <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 23, 2020 2:54 PM  
**To:** Clerk <[clerk@cityofnapa.org](mailto:clerk@cityofnapa.org)>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** COMMENT TO COUNCIL FOR JUNE 23, 2020 MEETING - PLEASE READ

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[EXTERNAL]

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Hello City Council members,

My name is Margaret Wigger, and I'm a lifetime resident of Napa. I'm writing to you tonight to express my personal anger and disappointment in council member and 2020 mayor candidate, Doris Gentry, regarding her anti-LGBTQ rhetoric, censoring of community members, and associations with a known white supremacist, Ben Bergquam.

Over the last week, videos have surfaced from a campaign fundraiser for Gentry, where Ben Bergquam spoke on her behalf. Bergquam is a known Proud Boy, which according to the Southern Poverty Law Center, is a *white supremacist hate group*. Bergquam is easily found in multiple videos threatening and inciting violence in multiple communities - including Napa's just this last Wednesday at the "We Back Blue" rally. I ask this of everyone on City Council, why is it that none of you have publicly acknowledged and apologized for this man's presence in Napa? Why has no one acknowledged that he has been allowed to harass our community, potentially incite violence, and cause harm to Napa's people of color on multiple occasions?

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jokes or flippant comments about these issues, it shows that you don't take them seriously. For some, this could be life-or-death; but to you, it seems like a joke.

To Doris Gentry, I want to believe that you care about the well-being of everyone in our community, but your actions don't reflect your statements. I hope that you take the time to reflect on your actions, and how you can become a better ally to everyone in this community in the future. To the rest of City Council, please hold each other accountable, and work towards a more inclusive future for Napa Valley.

Thank you,

Margaret Wigger

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Jessica Di Gregorio <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 23, 2020 6:29 PM  
**To:** Clerk  
**Subject:** Public comment for tonight's city council meeting

**Categories:** Unverified Contact

[EXTERNAL]

Dear Mayor Techel and Napa City Council,

I am pleased to hear the discussion regarding the use of police force will be presented during City Council tonight together with Police Chief Plummer, as it is a positive step forward in the right direction. Along with the topic of police use of force, it is my sincere desire that our local law enforcement also take the same time and scrutiny to review its current policies and practices when responding to a mental health or crisis calls. This is a particular concern for me, both as a mental health provider in our public schools as well as a concerned citizen, related to an encounter a beloved friend experienced with our local police officers.

Within the last year, a close friend of mine, a gentle and kind person, was experiencing a mental health crisis that lead a to planned suicide attempt. My friend's partner, upon discovery of this plan, sought out immediate help by calling 911, under the assumption (as well as I) that calling 911 was an appropriate measure when one has an immediate concern for the life of loved one, as first responders. What transpired was police officers arriving at the home and ultimately arresting my friend, and a short stay in county jail. During this ordeal, my friend never received any intervention nor mental health support. Upon finding out about the situation, I was completely appalled, as this was clearly not an appropriate response and in fact, a grossly handled situation. My friend was criminalized for being in need of dire mental health intervention, and never during the entire ordeal did not receive it. This demonstrated the complete lack of de-escalating procedures and knowledge of an appropriate way to handle mental health calls on the part of law enforcement in Napa.

As we take time to review policies and procedures to better our service to the community, please make this issue of high importance. This should have never happened and my hope is that all police departments, and in particular the Napa Police Department, take proactive steps on training and implementation of appropriate procedures for responding to mental health calls. A mental health crisis should not be criminalized. Thank you for your time and leadership, and I look forward to open dialogue and collaboration on these efforts in order to create systems that serve our community best.

Sincerely,

Jessica Di Gregorio

School Counselor

Napa, CA

Sent from my iPhone

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Errr Gee <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 23, 2020 6:30 PM  
**To:** Clerk  
**Subject:** Napa city council meeting June 23 2020 re:police response and reform

**Categories:** Unverified Contact

[EXTERNAL]

Cheif Plummer,

In March of 2019 the Napa Register reported that the Napa Pd was looking to sell their MRAP. A few months later, in June 2019, the Napa police department deployed their Mine Resistant Ambush Protective vehicle, known as an MRAP, onto Franklin street, along with SWAT to respond to a suspect with a "bladed weapon" making threats. Would Chief Plummer consider this to be an appropriate response to an individual with a "bladed weapon". What attempts at deescalation did Napa PD and chief Plummer exhaust before allowing militarized police and combat vehicles to be deployed in a residential neighborhood, downtown, just a few blocks from our City hall.

Erin Gulbransen  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Errr Gee <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 23, 2020 6:30 PM  
**To:** Clerk  
**Subject:** City council meeting June 23 2020 re: police response and reform

**Categories:** Unverified Contact

[EXTERNAL]

Cheif Plummer, March 2019 the Napa register reported that the Napa Pd was looking to sell their MRAP. A few months later, in June 2019, the Napa police department deployed their Mine Resistant Ambush Protective vehicle, known as an MRAP, onto Franklin street, along with SWAT to respond to a suspect with a "bladed weapon" making threats. Is this what Chief plummer would consider an appropriate response to an individual with a "bladed weapon". What attempts at reevaluation did Napa PD and chief Plummer exhaust before allowing militarized police and combat vehicles to be deployed in a residential neighborhood, just a few blocks from city hall.

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Napa County Progressive Alliance <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 23, 2020 6:49 PM  
**To:** Clerk  
**Cc:** Devra Dallman; Gary Orton; Beth Nelsen; Val Wolf; Amy Martenson  
**Subject:** COMMENT TO COUNCIL FOR JUNE 23, 2020 MEETING – PLEASE READ (Item 15A)

**Categories:** Unverified Contact

[EXTERNAL]

Good evening. My name is Amy Martenson, and I am speaking on behalf of the Napa County Progressive Alliance.

We stand with the organizers of Napa's Black Lives Matter movement in their call for racial justice and an end to institutionalized racism. We appreciate the discussion tonight on the Napa Police Department's current use of force policies and efforts to create more restrictive use of force policies. We also appreciate the renewed request by organizers for a civilian police oversight commission.

This same request was made by the Napa County Green Party back in 2011, after Richard Poccia was fatally shot by police in the Alta Heights neighborhood. Following an investigation of that shooting, the Napa County Grand Jury, in 2012, also recommended the establishment of a civilian police oversight commission. Unfortunately, the then Napa City Council rejected the Grand Jury recommendation, saying that there were not enough officer-involved shootings in Napa to warrant the establishment of such a commission and that the Grand Jury itself could investigate in those cases. The City Council's decision was misguided for a few reasons.

First, the Grand Jury picks and chooses what it wants to investigate and would not be obliged to investigate any future officer-involved shootings. Second, a civilian police oversight commission would not just investigate police shootings but also alleged police misconduct. Finally, the Grand Jury would not have the same expertise as members of a civilian police oversight commission who would be selected for this specific purpose.

A civilian police oversight commission is important as there are people who, for a variety of reasons, distrust police and would not feel comfortable reporting police misconduct to law enforcement. In addition, whether it is police misconduct or a police shooting, allowing law enforcement officers to investigate other law enforcement officers fails to create the appearance of independence and impartiality required for public acceptance of credibility.

Not surprisingly, major cities in California already have civilian police oversight commissions-- San Diego, Los Angeles, Anaheim, Long Beach, Riverside, Fresno, San Francisco, Richmond, Oakland, Berkeley, and Sacramento-- but so do towns the size of Napa and even towns smaller than Napa, such as Inglewood, Claremont, National City, Tulare, Santa Cruz, Novato, Sausalito, and Davis. In the coming months, we will likely see more created, as calls for greater police accountability and efforts to improve the relationship between law enforcement and civilians grow.

It was time for a civilian police oversight commission back in 2011, and it is long overdue for one now in 2020. We request that the city council place the subject of a civilian police oversight commission on the agenda for a future city council meeting.

Thank you.

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Jess Raphael [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 23, 2020 7:59 PM  
**To:** Clerk  
**Subject:** Re: COMMENT TO COUNCIL FOR JUNE 23, 2020 MEETING – PLEASE READ

**Categories:** Unverified Contact

[EXTERNAL]

I would like the following message read as a public comment on 6/23 regarding Agenda Item 15.A.  
“Napa Police Dept use of force policy”:

How are "Use of Force" statistics tabulated? Are incidents only included when the officer chooses to include his/her own actions in the report?

What assurance is there that officers will not downplay or omit the amount of force they used?

Are the statements of the victims of police force included in the statistics, or are they disregarded as incidents of "use of force?"

In my experience (30 years in Napa criminal law) I have experienced countless times when my client has a very different history of the force used than what appears in the officer's official report. How do we give the victims of excessive force a credible voice to a neutral and unprejudiced fact-finder?

On Tue, Jun 23, 2020 at 12:27 PM Jess Raphael <[REDACTED]> wrote:

I would like the following message read as a public comment on 6/23 regarding Agenda Item 15.A.  
“Napa Police Dept use of force policy”:

Thank you, Chief Plummer, for your continuing efforts to tackle this important issue. As a 30 year criminal law practitioner in the Valley, I have seen a startling decline since the era of Chief Dan Monez in the manner in which our local law enforcement deals with the mentally ill. It seems as if 5150 welfare commitments of people experiencing mental health episodes have often been replaced as a policing strategy with custodial arrests for misdemeanor or felony Resisting or Obstructing Arrest. In many of these cases, rather than utilize mental health workers to assist, unnecessary and excessive force is used by officers to apprehend and restrain mentally compromised detainees. Any physical resistance (including a simple tensing of the arms) is charged by our DA's Office as a felony and the disabled person is trundled to jail (or the hospital for the injuries received) instead of to mental health treatment. What special training are NPD officers receiving for deescalation and compassionate treatment of mentally ill detainees to avoid unnecessary force? What ideas do you have to properly direct these individuals into the treatment arena instead of incarceration and prosecution? Is DA Alison Haley on board?

--

Jess Raphael  
Counsel for the Accused

"You should never wear your best trousers when you go out to fight for freedom and truth." - Henrik Ibsen

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Jess Raphael  
Counsel for the Accused

"You should never wear your best trousers when you go out to fight for freedom and truth." - Henrik Ibsen