

## Routh named mayor

Michael Routh was unanimously elected mayor of Capitola Thursday night by the City Council.

Routh replaces Ron Graves, who stepped down from the council after being defeated for a fifth term on the council by Stephanie Harlan.

Harlan, Routh and the new city clerk, Pam Greeninger, were sworn in during a 25-minute council meeting.

Greeninger replaces Cathy Athenour, who moved out of the city and did not seek re-election.

Graves, presiding over the last of perhaps 400 city council meetings that he had attended in a 16 year career, praised Athenour's service to the city, telling the audience, "having served with several city clerks over the last 16 years, I like to thank Cathy. Her minutes (of the City Council meetings) are probably the best I've seen.

"Pam Greeninger will have a big act to follow."

In his parting comments, Graves thanked his wife, Dianne, for putting up with him.

"She's the one I blew up at when things didn't go right in the city."

He singled out Councilmen Jerry Clark, Bob Bucher and Routh and their wives, for their support over the years and then added: "I'd like to thank Dennis Beltram too. (Beltram supported Harlan in the election.

"The council has been better for that and I really mean it," Graves said.

About 50 people watched the change-over and serenaded Graves with "For He's a Jolly Good Fellow" when he was presented with a cluster of balloons.

He also received a commemorative plaque from Routh honoring his service as a city councilman and mayor. Routh praised Graves' service to the city, saying at one point that he felt like he'd lost his right arm.

He also called to the audience's attention that Graves was instrumental in 1970 in keeping the Capitola National Begonia Festival alive when the group's original sponsors decided to discontinue the annual event.