

Capitola receives state award for local energy conservation

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CAPITOLA — The California Energy Commission honored the city for its energy conservation efforts at the council meeting Thursday night.

Capitola is one of eight cities to receive the Outstanding Energy Achievement in Local Government award. More than 100 cities participate in the program, energy commissioner Sally Rakow said.

Rakow said the city cut its energy use by 15 percent through the use of water-heater blankets, fluorescent lighting, and controls for

outdoor lighting.

The use reduction resulted in a \$5,600 savings for the city, Rakow said.

Through federal funds, the state Energy Partnership Program helps cities with technical assistance for conservation and provides low-interest loans.

In other items before the council:

- The council unanimously accepted an ordinance which prohibits its portable volleyball courts without city permission.

The city will add a permanent fifth court, and will replace all ex-

isting court equipment for the summer season beginning Memorial Day weekend.

The ordinance must undergo a second reading at the Feb. 27 council meeting before it goes into effect.

- Four city employees were honored with the 1991 Employee of the Year awards.

Bruce Ink, a community service officer; Brad Ward, a police officer and field training officer; Mark Crain, a building inspector; and Lance Elliott, a Public Works Department employee, all received awards from the city.