

Council gives green light to parking lot acquisition; split develops over money

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Capitola City Manager Max Kludt was told Tuesday night by city councilmen to start dickering for parking lots in the Capitola Village area.

Kludt was also given the go-ahead in a special study session to hire an appraiser to prepare a study on the property.

But the council split on the amount of money it's willing to spend this year on municipal parking lots.

Councilmen John Dixon and Michael Routh favored setting aside \$15,000 for the appraisals and options on available land in the village.

Councilman Ron Graves objected vehemently to establishing any dollar amount at this point, saying he wanted to wait until next Monday night when the council will hold a public hearing on the budget.

He reiterated an earlier concern that the city will be engaging in deficit spending this year, a position at odds with that of Dixon.

An ad hoc parking committee, matching funds to establish a community school program in this area.

The council now plans a public hearing next Monday, 7:30 p.m., in the city hall on the budget.

Kludt has estimated a 1975-76 year-end balance of \$496,177 and 1976-77 income of \$1,010,315; a total of \$1,506,486.

With the completion of the city hall addition and reconstruction of Capitola Road between 41st and Wharf Road, included in the budget, Kludt wants council approval to spend \$1,364,265 next year.

This includes two new police officers and a dispatcher for the police department, an \$80 across-the-board increase for the city

employees, and the city paying all health insurance premiums for city employees and their dependents.

The city now pays a maximum of \$52 a month for Blue Cross premiums, with the employee paying the additional amount required for extra family members.

Blue Cross premium will increase next year, Kludt said to a basic \$72 for a family of four. The additional of drugs, optical and dental insurance will raise the monthly tab to \$100 per employee, Kludt said.

So far, the Operating Engineers, representing the city police, have not accepted the city's offer, Kludt said.

led by restaurant owner Wayne Hansen, asked the city council to

take steps towards the acquisition of several parcels in the village area that are now for sale. Hansen contended that the city council would then have two options — operate the lots as municipally-owned, revenue producing lots, or hold them until a parking district is formed in the village area.

Dixon favors the formation of a parking district with the city council actively participating in the financing.

Routh leans toward a municipally-operated system, with revenues paying the operating and acquisition costs.

The council will also decide next Monday night on a request from the Soquel-Capitola Community Schools for \$11,773 in