

La Selva Cityhood Expensive

By Bruce McPherson
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By incorporating alone, La Selva Beach residents would be paying more taxes and receiving less service than now, the La Selva Beach Improvement Association directors were told Monday night.

That summary was presented by Mike Twombly and Judy Gaines, two UCSC students who are helping to develop a mid-county incorporation study.

Using what he termed "very rough estimates," Twombly said it would take a \$60,000 to \$70,000 budget to run La Selva Beach "with minimal services" that would lower current standings but allow more self autonomy.

With that budget, La Selva Beach could only contract with the county for police service, which would patrol the area about two hours a day. He said to have a full time police force would be out of the question, since it costs "about \$100,000" a year to have a car on the road 24 hours a day.

Twombly broke down the budget as follows: police, \$15,000; streets and lighting, \$15,000 to \$20,000; planning and zoning, \$15,000, and others.

Miss Gaines added that revenues from state subventions, licenses and permits, trailer coach fees and other non-property tax revenues would amount to about \$20,500.

Therefore, she said, the \$40,000 difference to finance the city would have to be made up through additional property taxes.

Using the boundaries of the La Selva Beach Fire Protection District, Twombly said it would take an additional \$1.70 per \$100 of assessed valuation above the current tax rate to run the city. For a person with a home assessed at \$5000, this would amount to \$85, Twombly said. He estimated the assessed valuation of the fire district at \$2.6 million.

Said Twombly, "With the facts we have now, our conclusion is that La Selva Beach could not hope to compete as a financially sound city."

He added that the tax rate would increase, but not as much, if La Selva Beach were to incorporate with other mid-county communities. He said specific data on that possibility would be known when the current study is completed sometime next month. Twombly and Miss Gaines will make another presentation on incorporating only La Selva Beach at the associations July 17 quarterly meeting at 7:30 p.m. at the clubhouse.

Other business included:

BEACH DIRECTOR—The board voted Larry McAndrews, 31, as the new beach director. He replaces Ken Seikel, who resigned last month. McAndrews, a machinist, has lived in La Selva Beach for two years.

PLANNING—Association President T. J. "Murph" Fabiszewski asked that a letter be written to county Planning Director Bert Muhly, Assistant County Counsel James Rankin and Pajaro Supervisor Henry Mello to defer issuance of additional use permits in the Area 8 General Plan region until the plan is reviewed. Directors agree.

TREE REMOVAL—Directors said they will solicit more bids to cut down trees along the beach fence, since the bid received Monday seemed too high.

GAS STATION—Association planning director Truman Blair was asked to find out what is holding up construction of a gas station at the Mar Monte-Highway 1 intersection.

COMMUNITY NAME—Directors again considered the possibility of taking the word "beach" off the community's name. They said highway drivers often turn off at a sign that has "beach" on it.