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Soquel Water Dist. Set To Fight For Land For New Tank

Owner of a proposed storage tank site in the Park Wilshire - Vienna Woods neighborhood has balked on the sale of the land to the Soquel Creek County Water District and water commissioners are readying ammunition to acquire the land under eminent domain procedures.

District counsel Bob Bosso advised the board to prepare an environmental impact statement on the site before entering condemnation proceedings, and commissioners instructed District Manager Bob Johnson to begin work on the document.

Johnson said the site owner backed out of plans to sell the property when his neighbors said they didn't want to live near the tank. He added he thought the homeowners didn't realize the tank will be shielded from view.

The tank is one of the installations to be made by the district as it extends full water service to the Park Wilshire community.

In other business, Mervin Garibotto, president of the Seacliff Beach Improvement Assn., appeared before the board to request water main replacements in his neighborhood.

The improvement association

has launched a campaign to form an assessment district to fix some of Seacliff's streets, and it wants the mains under the streets replaced with larger ones so the new pavement won't have to be dug up at a later date.

Board members told Garibotto they would replace as many of the mains as their budget will allow.

Byron Jackson Pump Division of Borg - Warner Corp. was awarded the \$9,018 bid for a new pump to be installed in the recently drilled Madeline Lane well.

The board entered an agreement with Kett Construction Co. on a main extension to serve Avera Lodge, a 66 - unit apartment complex under construction on the old Lodge property on Capitola Avenue.

The board approved a \$48,000 budget transfer for the purchase of new water meters and okayed the purchase of a pickup truck from the state.

Trustees then turned to the subject of formation of a citizens committee to boost the water district's proposed \$5 - million bond election later this year.

Johnson was instructed to write a letter outlining goals and an election timetable to prospective members.