

Wharf costs keep going up

The cost of renovating the Capitola wharf took a \$72,000 jump when it was discovered that more piles and timbers must be replaced than the original survey indicated.

Reporting to the City Council Thursday night, City Manager Steve Burrell said that the removal of deck planking on the final 250 feet of the wharf revealed unexpected damage to pilings, caps and stringers, all of which must be replaced.

Burrell said it would cost an additional \$65,000 to do so, but asked the council for \$72,000 to cover contingencies. "There's not a whole lot more that can be replaced," Burrell told the council. This new allocation brings the city's share of the rebuilding cost to \$225,000 — it was originally expected to be \$120,000 — and the the total cost to \$800,000. The remainder of the funds are being provided under state and federal programs.

Burrell brought samples of the damaged timbers to the meeting to show the extent of damage, and explained that it is possible

to take boring samples in a survey that fail to disclose hidden damage. But some councilmen questioned the validity of the survey — done at a cost of \$14,000 by the Brown and Caldwell engineering firm — since this was not the first time the city has had to come up with a substantial amount of money to cover unexpected repairs.

Although the council authorized the new fund allocation, Councilman Robert Garcia asked that the City Attorney look into the matter "and check for contract compliance" as far as the survey is concerned.

Asked where the \$72,000 would come from, Burrell said he could get \$15,000 from funds allocated for undergrounding utilities, another \$30,000 by delaying street repairs and curb and gutter construction on Bay Avenue until next year, and the remaining \$22,000 "from an undetermined source — the general fund, revenue sharing or elsewhere."

In other business, councilmen:

—Approved a consent

calendar that set a public hearing July 23 on an appeal of Planninc Commission approval of commercial development in the 600 block of Capitola Avenue, LeRoy Neider, applicant; and the action list of Planning Commission meeting of July 2.

—Expressed support of maintaining local access television in a discussion of Sonic Cable TV's application for franchise renewal and rate increase. Sonic reported it had received a demand from a Salinas Spanish-speaking broadcaster that it be given a channel on the cable service now occupied by Capitola Community Channel 8. Federal Communication Commission rules would permit the station to bump the local access station, Sonic said.

The council decided to ask the FCC to see if this can be prevented and to ask the Salinas broadcaster, Sanite Broadcasting Corporation, to wait until more channels are available before making its request. "We must do all we can to protect our local access TV," Garcia said.

—Approved an application from Doug Erickson of Fleetwood Sailboards International to hold a windsurfing regatta off the Capitola beach on Saturday. The approval included authorization for the sponsors to put an administrative booth on the parking lot near the public restrooms.

—Discussed the deficiencies of the public restrooms in response to a letter from Jean Burns of Santa Cruz who cited missing doors and partitions in the women's restroom. City Public Works Director Craig French acknowledged the deficiencies and that the plumbing "is at a state where we are always making repairs." The restroom is to be replaced when a new sewage pumping station is built.

—Approved resolutions of appreciation for community service for Harold Jarvis, who recently retired as chief of the Capitola Fire Department; and to the Chamber of Commerce and Dianne Graves for the Fourth of July celebration. The Capitola Hoe Down, organized to replace the fireworks show.