

City Council

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Sentinel

Council Delays Action On School Structure

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The Santa Cruz City Council Tuesday delayed until May 11 conferring legality upon a building that was put up illegally by Santa Cruz City School on the grounds of Bay View Elementary School.

The City Council had previously ruled it was in the best interests of the city and the school district not to compel razing the structure or moving it to a new location. After that ruling, the council authorized the city staff to develop findings and conditions through which the building could be allowed to stand.

The findings and conditions were developed too late for school authorities to study them prior to the City Council's Tuesday meeting. Hence the school district's attorney, Lloyd Williams, requested the delay.

In other business Tuesday the City Council acted as follows:

PASATIEMPO WATER — The City Council authorized hiring Cardona and Associates as consultants for a \$570,000 project to improve water service in the Pasatiempo area. Major construction will be a storage tank addition to eliminate pressure problems.

VENDING — The City Council discovered to its dismay that the city has an ordinance that would prevent even an ice-cream vendor from selling his wares on the city streets. The staff was instructed to develop an ordinance through which selected street vendors could be authorized to market their products.

ARTS - The City Council appointed Judith Frick to the city Arts Commission for a term of office to expire Jan. 1, 1986. The appointment was on a

4 to 3 vote, with the council's liberal majority prevailing.

GAS TANKS — The City Council ordered the staff to develop an ordinance to prevent gasoline tank trucks from parking on residential streets. This has become a dangerous problem on the city's west side, Mayor Michael Rotkin said.

DISASTER RELIEF — The City Council authorized including a message with city utility bills urging people to contribute to the Countywide Disaster Relief fund. Councilmember Joe Ghio dissented.

Ghio contended that with some \$50 million in lawsuits filed against the city alleging damages resulting from its Loch Lomond operation near the Love Creek slide area, the city residents are facing considerable extra costs just to defend against the lawsuits.

Councilmember John Mahaney said: "We are self-insured and every claim has to be investigated and that costs big money. If the city loses one of these big lawsuits it will be a disaster."

Stephanie Hauk, executive director of the disaster relief committee, stressed that aid goes for food, shelter, tools and other needs, but that none is given for attorney fees.

Mahaney said he knows the aid is needed and backed putting the message in the utility bill envelopes.

WHALE - The City Council approved placing a whale sculpture in Tyrell Park as an educational benefit for the community. The whale will be a gray whale, the type that migrates past Santa Cruz County annually.

LAWSUITS — The City Council formally denied some \$50 million in claims arising from its Loch Lomond operation near the Love Creek slide area.