

Water Supply, 1970-79

Soquel Water Board Delays Vote On Tract

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Villa de Soquel got a postponed decision from Soquel Creek County Water District directors Monday night, in answer to a request for service to its planned development on the O'Neill Ranch beside Soquel High School.

Robert Johnson, district manager, in a memo to directors recommended staging of construction of water facilities needed over the same period as the development is planned — from five to 10 years, Johnson said. G. A. Tucker, representing the developer, later said he thought five years a more accurate figure, although "we'll be lucky if we get the first ones built within a year."

Johnson recommended the developer provide a reservoir site, at a proper elevation, big enough to construct two 500,000 gallon tanks upon it, together with a hydrodynamic pressure system.

The manager recommended requiring the developer to build one 500,000 gallon tank on the site at the time planned apartments next to the high school are built. The hydrodynamic system would not be needed, he said, until the land above the 150-foot contour line is developed.

Pipelines in the water system must be a minimum of eight inches in diameter and designed without dead ends.

Johnson proposed the developer be given credit for providing reservoir site and the required tank, against the \$172 per unit storage and transmission fee charged for all development.

Director Larry Bargetto protested that since the development to be constructed will require 300,000 gallons of the 500,000 gallon tank, credit should be given only for the excess 200,000 gallons the district asks for.

Johnson replied the developer is no different than any other water user, who must pay only

his storage and transmission fee to get water service, but is not asked for a pro rata share payment for storage.

Most directors appeared to agree with Johnson, but Bargetto argued so convincingly, the decision was postponed to the March 27 meeting to give time for further study.

Villa de Soquel ultimately will contain between 692 and 867 units, Tucker said, with only 100 units planned in the first phase of development.

Soquel Creek County Water District will not serve the total development. The property fronting on Soquel Drive, up to the 150-foot contour line will be served by the city of Santa Cruz.

Directors also acted on these matters at Monday's meeting:

VALENCIA WELL — A formal agreement, authorizing an exchange of land with the Pajaro Valley Unified School District at the Valencia School site, was approved. The water district trades a 90-foot lot for access to the well site. Costs are split by the two agencies.

COUNTRY CLUB PARK — Service to a 64-unit subdivision in Country Club Park in Rio del Mar was approved. The area, now outside the district, will be asked to annex if it is not a part of a larger annexation, now pending.

TRUCK PURCHASE — Directors authorized a budget transfer of \$6,000 to permit purchase of a dump truck needed to pull a backhoe and other heavy equipment. Johnson explained the one-ton truck in the budget is not large enough and asked for permission to buy a six-ton truck for \$10,000.

PARK-WILSHIRE — Johnson announced costs of water service to the Park-Wishire and Vienna Woods subdivisions, now in process of forming an assessment district in order to secure water service, will be approximately \$525 per unit. Total cost of the project, including water service and assessment district fees, will be in excess of \$100,000, the manager said.