

SC May Buy More Land In Watershed

An additional 885 acres of watershed land may be purchased by the city to protect its investment and water supply in the soon-to-be-constructed Newell creek reservoir.

In a breakfast session today, the councilmen generally agreed on the purchase with later consideration being given to an additional 2000-plus acres comprising the remainder of the more than nine square mile watershed.

Funds to buy at least part of the land are included in the \$5.5 million revenue water bond issue passed in the November general election. Formal action authorizing appraisals of the 885 acres probably will come in next Tuesday's regular council session.

Councilmen also heard a report on recent zoning ordinance variations passed by both council and city planning commission which may be illegal, according to City Attorney John Barber.

The variances have allowed construction of apartment houses in duplex-zoned areas on a "density policy" recommended by the city planning department.

City manager Pete Tedesco said that while the idea may be a good one, "We apparently have no authority under the law to make this possible."

Currently involved in the ruling is a variance which already has been granted to Vic Bogard to construct a seven-unit apartment house at Ocean View avenue and Darwin street. Under the city attorney's ruling, the building department has refused Bogard a building permit, even though he has a variance.

Water Supply 1-6-59

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