

7-28-54

City To Hire Firm For Water Studies

Impounding facilities to meet needs for increasing Santa Cruz water supply moved a step faster to reality last night.

The city council instructed City Attorney Frank Murphy to prepare a resolution for passage at the next council session, authorizing the city manager to sign an agreement with the engineering firm of Brown and Caldwell for field study of three possible projects.

The contract under consideration calls for a study which will be sufficiently complete to submit to the electorate the choice of a dam site and the cost involved in constructing and bringing water here from the facilities proposed, City Manager Robert N. Klein reported.

The engineers, by the contract, will investigate suitability of the proposed Bald Mountain, Doyle Gulch and Glenwood-Upper Soquel projects, one by one, and evaluate the results of their field investigations.

They will prepare preliminary plans showing the essentials of the project finally recommended, and a master plan for future development to increase the water supply as it is needed, under the contract's terms.

The fee will be paid on a time basis, with a maximum set at \$8500 for the Bald Mountain project study, \$8000 for Doyle Gulch and \$8500 for Glenwood-Upper Soquel. Maximum cost of exploratory work will not exceed \$10,000, by the terms Kenneth W. Brown agreed to at last night's council session.

The total maximum cost is within the city budget limits, Klein pointed out.

Brown estimated the study of each project will take not more than six months, once the water development experts are authorized to go on the land to be explored.

Once the contract is signed, the city can go ahead and get the rights to explore from property owners involved, Klein said.

In other actions at last night's session, the council sold the city's rock crushing equipment to Edward R. Bacon company, high of six bidders, for \$12,990.

The sale was made over the objection of Councilman Robert Burton, who insisted the city was making a mistake in abandoning its gravel production. All the rock that would not have to be quarried has been cleaned out of the city gravel pits, Klein argued, and, successful as the operation has been in the past, there is nothing left of it now. The city manager reported that the city has 5000 tons of rock stockpiled there now.

Contract for an offset duplicating machine was awarded Davidson Sales company for \$2466.85. The only other bidder was the Addressograph, Multigraph corporation, who submitted a bid only on an alternate.

The council voted to seek state highway division approval for installation of automatic signal lights at Bay and Mission streets, after hearing a report from Police Sgt. Ernest Marenghi urging traffic signals there.

Action on a request by Harley Anthis, for the city to go back to

get the business on alternate months, was held off.

Councilman William Davenhill resisted taking any final action until the council hears how Perrigo feels about it. Councilman George Penniman pointed out that "Perrigo stuck by us last year and he has two-way radio tuned to the police department wave length" in backing Davenhill's stand.

Anthis said he has installed two-way radio in one ambulance, but it is not connected with the city system.

Klein pointed out that, whether calls are rotated or not, no agreement with either ambulance company involves cost to the city.

The council voted to back the stand taken by the chamber of commerce, in favor of an application by Coast Lines Truck service for common carrier rights between Santa Cruz and the San Francisco Bay area.

At present, Penniman observed, Santa Cruz endures discriminatory rates because only one railroad and one common carrier serve between here and the bay area. With competition, it may be possible to get lower rates, he reasoned.

Councilmen lauded a proposal by Post 89 of the Explorer Scouts, to raise money for the post by painting street numbers on curbs throughout the city in uniform sizes and colors, at a charge of 50 cents to residents for material and service. They instructed preparation of a resolution for passage at their next meeting, so the project can go ahead.

The council okayed auctioning off of stolen jewelry which has been in custody for more than three years by Police Chief Al Huntsman. "We know who stole it, but not whom it was stolen from," Huntsman explained.

Formal action for transfer of deeds for the Harvey West stadium property to the city was completed. The council adopted a recommendation by the recreation commission to change the name of the property to Harvey West municipal park, with the stadium itself still called Harvey West stadium.

On a request by Councilman Clifford L. Dysle for more time for formulation of a policy statement on city services to fringe areas, now in the hands of his council committee, that agenda item was held over.

Also held over was consideration of a request by the Santa Cruz Yacht club to enter into negotiations for constructing its own landing on the wharf.

The city manager was authorized to submit a project statement to the division of highways for expenditure of \$25,000 in state gas tax funds allocated for maintenance of major city streets this fiscal year.

The council adjourned in memory of Dr. Harry Piper, leading physician and city planner, who died last Saturday, in a resolution in his memory which recalled he was "a patient and kindly man, devoted to the service of the city." (See editorial Page 13)

Marion Mack,