

topped only by Donald Campbell's air-jet hydroplane, clocked at 248 miles an hour in 1957.

of 22 miles an hour. "Increasing the horsepower will increase the efficiency," Gongwar said.

You May Decide Your Own Water Rates In Election

City voters indirectly will be helping to decide their own water rates when they mark their ballots in Tuesday's municipal election.

After passing on eight candidates for four city council posts, voters will be asked to decide on a city charter amendment which will determine the financing costs for the \$5.5 million Newell Creek project.

Following November's election when the revenue bond issue was passed by a 5-2 margin, bond attorneys began searching through the city charter and codes to insure that the basic laws of the community were in accord with modern fiscal procedures.

Attorneys with Orrick, Dalquist, Herrington and Sutcliffe of San Francisco discovered an ambiguity in the wording of a portion of the charter which they felt would prejudice the salability of the bonds.

The vague clause concerned the priority claims against water department revenues. One interpretation of the clause would

place depreciation funds ahead of bond interest and principle payments.

In effect, this would move bond holders down the list for payment and could drastically influence the interest rate the city will have to pay for the bonds.

One unofficial estimate placed the increased cost at \$120,000 to \$150,000.

Since the bonds have been approved and can be sold as voted by the people and since many city leaders have indicated that the urgency of the water problem requires starting the project now, the council may vote to sell the bonds regardless of the outcome of the election on the charter amendment.

If the interest rate the city must pay exceeds estimates, then water rates must be raised again to provide needed cash, according to Water Department Director Weston Webber.

Webber pointed out the amendment cannot cost water customers a cent if passed and could increase the recently boosted water rates even higher if it fails.

The charter amendment was unanimously backed by the city council and water commission. To pass, a simple majority of Santa Cruz voters must agree with them.

In a second and more minor part of the amendment, voters would include authorization to allow the bonds to be called in before their maturity should city funds be available

