

4/14/55 water supply

# City Okay Of Water Act Seen

The probability that the city will not stand in the way of the recently-revised county water district act seemed strong today in view of a decision taken on the matter by city councilmen last night.

Agreement was reached to get copies of the act when it is whipped into bill form by Senator Donald Grunsky who will sponsor it in the legislature. Any further corrections or amendments the city desires can be inserted then, before final legislative action is taken, former State Senator Ray Judah told councilmen when his opinion was asked.

Councilman Tom Polk Williams Sr., reporting on last week's public hearing on the proposed act before the board of supervisors, said Attorney Ernest Wilson, who revised the original, had made requested changes and otherwise satisfied the questions of Santa Cruz representatives.

Grunsky has stated he will not introduce the bill if there is any opposition from any quarter of the county and therefore he wanted an expression of opinion from the council, Williams said.

Fred Morris, member of the water commission who has been outspoken in the past against both the original and revised acts, relayed the feeling of fellow-commissioners that the act was created to benefit the Pajaro Valley. But he hinted that the water commission will withdraw its objections for the benefit of the county as a whole.

"We probably will have to go along to show our good will; I believe that's the thinking of the commission," he concluded.

Water Superintendent Weston Webber said enactment of the district will have no practical effect on the city of Santa Cruz other than the two-cent tax that will be levied on all portions of the county, whether included in a district zone or not.

The council decided to defer adoption of a stand on the measure until it studies the bill in print. City Manager Robert Klein was ordered to obtain copies as soon as practicable.

# 12-Inch Water Main Approved For Seabright

Permission was granted the city water department last night to go ahead with construction of a 12-inch water main to replace present smaller mains in the Seabright area.

The new main will be put down between the intersection of Murray street and Seabright avenue and the intersection of Hall and Owen streets.

Its principal benefit at first will be to the Stokely-Van Camp cannery but at the same time it is the initial link in a plan to extend 12-inch feeder main service north to Soquel avenue, Water Superintendent Weston Webber told the city council. Therefore, he said in response to a council question, the city will bear the \$12,500 cost.

Proposed expanded operations at the Stokely cannery could not be supported by the four- and six-inch mains supplying water at present, Webber said. And the entire network of four and six-inch mains in the area will be replaced as inadequate, he added, by the projected 12-inch main supplying "the whole southeast corner of the city."