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Belmont - to
hire an Ecology
specialist

Belmont Takes Lead

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City Hiring Ecology Specialist

Appointment of an ecology watchdog to keep an eye on possible polluting developments was approved last night by the Belmont City Council.

Belmont City Manager James DeChaine said the job would be filled by a layman with some expertise in environment. The position would be part-time and either unsalaried or with a low fee.

The ecology specialist, who may be appointed in 30 days, is to "make recommendations on specific developments which may have an adverse effect on the community through noise, air, water or land use pollution."

The job description says he will be "responsible for advising city leaders on various matters affecting aesthetic qualities and environmental values."

"An example might be our request to merchants that they not sell disposable containers," said DeChaine.

The council also took action to allow the offering of a federally subsidized flood and mud slide insurance program.

The Department of Housing and Urban Development program allows persons exposed to slides and floods to be insured up to \$17,500 on a structure for a 50-cent-per-\$100 annual premium and \$10,000 on contents for 60 cents per \$100.

Action on DeChaine's recommendation that the monthly sewer service charge be increased from \$1.50 to \$3 was delayed. The city manager says the increase is needed for repairs and maintenance.

In other action last night, the council:

—approved reimbursement of themselves for expenses in-

curring in the line of duty, in addition to their \$150 a month salaries;

—passed a sign abatement ordinance which calls for the removal of non-conforming signs with a minimum of three

and a maximum of 10 years.

—approved the final subdivision map for a Carlmont Woods apartment development near Carlmont Drive;

—approved a dirt hauling permit to the Equity Funding

Development Corp. for excavation for more apartments near Continentals Way;

—awarded a \$10,541 contract to the firm of Peterson and Rathbun for repair of the roof of Belameda Pool.