



Young soccer players now practice on a section of land on Holleman Drive that the College Station Planning and Zoning Board will ask the city council to consider as a future city park.

Battalion photo by Lee Roy Leschper Jr.

Nuclear plant in New York to be junked

United Press International
NEW YORK — New York officials, citing problems with the Three Mile Island nuclear plant in Pennsylvania and cost overruns, Thursday cancelled construction of a proposed multi-billion-dollar nuclear plant in Cementon, N.Y.

The Power Authority of the State of New York said instead it would seek federal approval to build a coal burning facility to replace the 1.2 megawatt Cementon plant, known as the Greene County Nuclear Power Project.

"Events have recently occurred which will make licensing of nuclear plants more difficult," PASNY Chairman Frederick Clark said in recommending that the board sell the assets of the upstate plant.

Clark also said the action to junk the plant was necessary because projected construction costs had risen dramatically in the past few years, from an estimated \$1.8 billion to about \$3.1 billion since 1977.

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Neighbors, owner of land want it to become a park

By SCOTT PENDLETON
Battalion Staff

The ball is in the air over land in College Station that is being used as a park. Soccer balls, specifically, and if people living close to the land prevail, they will stay there.

The land is 8.9 acres of undeveloped land on Holleman and Anderson streets that the owner, Bill Fitch, has been letting the city use as a soccer field for two years. But Fitch recently requested that the land be rezoned from R-1, single family dwellings, to R-2, or duplexes.

Alarmed residents packed the city council room during a public hearing on the request, held Thursday night at the regular meeting of the Planning and Zoning Board, to protest rezoning the land. They contended that proposal with a petition bearing 114 signatures that asks College Station to buy the land for a park.

Fitch said that he would sell the land to the city for \$165,000. In fact, this seems to be his preference.

Councilman Ann Hazen, attending the meeting as the city council's liaison with the Planning and Zoning Board, said that the rezoning request was "a ploy to get the council moving" towards buying the land. Even Fitch signed the petition requesting College Station to buy the land.

Should the city decline to buy, the duplexes are still a possibility.

Many people feel financially threatened by this, figuring that duplexes would lower property values in a single-family neighborhood. Other residents fear an increase in noise and traffic.

"When we moved here, we chose College Station over Bryan because College Station had the zoning that Bryan does not," one woman said at the hearing.

Elrey Ash, city engineer, later pointed out that College Station wasn't changing the rules, but mak-

ing the people who want to change the zoning abide by the rules. That's why the people had a chance to appear at the public hearing, he said.

After 45 minutes, the board closed the public hearing then tabled any action on the matter for 30 days. The rezoning proposal will be put on the next city council agenda,

with the zoning board's recommendation that the city consider buying the land for a park.

Another public hearing will take place at that council meeting.

Hazen met with the neighborhood residents outside the council chambers to answer questions on the status of the proposal.

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