

# EMPIRE NEWS

Thursday, October 20, 1994

## or survey ignites tempers

### Changes in growth questionnaire criticized

fastest-growing city, and some residents want a halt to suburban sprawl.

Others, including some council members, say more growth is needed to pay for streets, law enforcement and other services.

The Town Council agreed last spring to survey residents about growth as part of Windsor's general plan, which will direct development for the next 20 years. But members split on a questionnaire proposed by a council-appointed advisory committee.

Three council members, Maureen McDan-

iel, Barbara Siegler and Adamson, said it didn't contain enough information. Mayor Allan Rawland and Councilman Joe Rodota defended the survey and said the Town Council had promised to send it out.

Two weeks ago, angry residents accused the council's majority of trying to duck the growth issue, and the three members voted to reconsider it.

On Wednesday, two of them offered some survey revisions, including some questions with a pro-growth spin. One question sug-

gested a tax hike will be needed "if the community economic base doesn't grow."

Rodota called the new version "eyewash" and said "it's an insult to the people of Windsor." He questioned how the last-minute changes came before the Town Council, calling it "inappropriate" for one or two council members to have staff members draw up the changes.

Rodota said other cities have controlled their growth without economic hardship. "Slow growth doesn't mean we're going to go broke," he said. "I don't know why we don't

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## ISATION



## Final payment in RP sex suit

By ROBERT DIGITALE  
Staff Writer

A Rohnert Park woman who six years ago sued a Sonoma County radio station for sexual harassment has received the final payment of a \$918,000 combined award and settlement.

Karen Heck, a former advertising saleswoman, previously won a 1991 jury verdict against her past employer, KRPQ-FM, and a judge awarded Heck \$318,404. The country music station appealed, then later dropped the appeal. But Heck and her attorney said they pursued a cross-appeal and won an additional \$600,000 settlement last year.

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By **ROBERT DIGITALE**  
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Karen Heick, a former advertising saleswoman, previously won a 1991 jury verdict against her past employer, KRPQ-FM, and a judge awarded Heick \$318,404. The country music station appealed, then later dropped the appeal. But Heick and her attorney said they pursued a cross-appeal and won an additional \$600,000 settlement last year.

The station recently changed hands and Heick received her final payment Wednesday.

"I believe no woman should have to endure abusive and destructive behavior in the workplace," Heick said. She said no one from the radio station ever apologized for what she experienced.

An attorney for KRPQ-FM confirmed the two sides had settled the dispute but said the details were to remain confidential. Heick's attorney denied a confidentiality agreement existed.

Heick, 43, was one of three women who individually sued the Rohnert Park radio station alleging sexual harassment when they worked there in the late 1980s. The women said they were subjected to obscene jokes or gestures, pornographic pictures and lewd sexual remarks.

Only Heick's case went to trial. The other two were settled out of court. She won her jury verdict five months before the landmark hearings involving sexual harassment charges made by law school professor Anita Hill against Supreme Court nominee Clarence Thomas.

Last November, a week before oral arguments were to begin in her appeal, Heick and the radio station settled for the additional \$600,000. Her attorneys will receive about half the proceeds of the settlement.

Heick's attorney, Daniel Robert Bartley of Larkspur, said his client held off making an announcement until the radio station was sold and she received all settlement payments.

"These types of cases send a

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