

10/25/63. News Press.

# Glendale's 2 Golf Courses Put In Special Recreation Zone

Ordinances which place Glendale's two golf courses in a special recreation zone were approved Thursday night despite threats of a damage suit.

"We will have to bring suit," an attorney said minutes before City Council adopted two ordinances which place the Chevy Chase and Oakmont Country clubs in the special recreation (SR) zone.

"The owners and lessees of Chevy Chase Country Club can't sit by and let it be drastically devalued," said W. Montgomery Jones, the attorney who charged that council's action lops off "at least \$300,000" of the facility's market value.

Council shrugged off the "veiled threats of suit" and ordered the rezoning, from restricted residential to SR, by a 4-1 vote.

In a repeat vote following last week's marathon public hearing, Councilman Howard Peters was the lone dissenter.

He then joined the other council members in unanimously placing Oakmont in the SR zone.

Action came after 60 minutes of "rehashing and spinning our wheels," when Councilman Allan F. Daily moved adoption of his own ordinance.

The SR zone was conceived by the planning department and an enabling ordinance was passed earlier this fall without much controversy.

Principal aim of SR zoning admittedly is to prevent subdivision of open spaces that are deemed desirable to be maintained open and clear for the public's use.

As late as six years ago, City Council made clear its deter-

mination to keep Chevy Chase's golf course as a golf course, or other open area for semi-public use.

However, the Planning Commission voted 4-1 in September not to rezone Glendale's two golf courses, contending it would be an intrusion on private property rights.

No Oakmont representative has during the course of past public hearings come forth to comment on the proposed rezoning. But Chevy Chase counsel have said they will bring a suit against the city, due to Thursday's action, possibly for "inverse condemnation."