

February 17, 2011

## City unveils impact fee payment plan

SALISBURY -- A payment plan for water and sewer capacity fees aimed to make the city more business friendly was approved by the City Council at its Tuesday regular meeting.

The fees -- one-time payments for developers meant to foot the bill for additional capacity required when a new structure goes online -- have in the past been labeled as a deterrent for small businesses.

Officials said that under the new plan, a developer proposing a project that will use more than two equivalent dwelling units are eligible to pay 20 percent of the total fee up front, and the remaining 80 percent will be paid in equal installments during the course of one year. If proposed usage is more than six EDUs, the city will consider allowing repayment for a maximum of two years.

This measure stems from a request made by Evolution Craft Brewery, whose business was built in Delmar rather than Salisbury due to high impact fees.