

Public hearing scheduled on impact fees

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Feb. 21--GREENVILLE -- A public hearing has been scheduled Tuesday to reveal how City of Greenville officials have updated the method used in assessing impact fees to help pay for local economic development.

The city's Capital Improvements Advisory Committee (CIAC), comprised of the Planning and Zoning Commission, along with Tim Kingsbury as an ad hoc member representing the city's extra-territorial jurisdiction, was formed last year to act on an update study of local impact fees.

The public hearing, scheduled during the regular Greenville City Council agenda starting at 6 p.m. Tuesday, will show the results of the Committee's efforts. The City Council is expected to then vote during the meeting to approve the update to the city's impact fee ordinance. A work session is also scheduled for 5 p.m. Tuesday.

The Council passed an impact fee ordinance in November, 2004, to help defray the costs of infrastructure -- such as roads and water and sewer lines -- borne by the city in establishing subdivision projects. No fees were charged for the first year after the ordinance was adopted and only limited amounts of impact fees were paid in 2006. The fees were phased in gradually through 2009.

In creating the ordinance, the original CIAC -- comprised of the Planning and Zoning Commission and two local developers -- helped draft the recommendations for land use assumptions and capital improvements under which impact fees would be imposed.

The Texas Local Government Code <u>calls</u> for cities who charge impact fees to conduct an engineering study every five years to validate and update the assumptions.

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