

Article published Mar 7, 2007

Belleview says 'yes' to impact fee for new home building

**BY AUSTIN L. MILLER
STAR-BANNER**

BELLEVIEW - Following a year of hand wringing, studies and debates, the issue of whether to have an impact fee ended Tuesday, with city commissioners voting 5-0 to impose the fee on new home construction.

Late last month in its first reading, the ordinance narrowly passed 3-2. Commissioners Ken Nadeau, Wilma Lora and Christine Dobkowski voted yes. Since voting no the first time, both Mayor Tammy Moore and Commissioner Michael Goldman have changed their minds, and on Tuesday they voted in favor of the proposal.

"It makes it a stronger ordinance," Goldman said.

Only new home construction will be affected by the fee. For a single-family detached dwelling, the cost will be \$1,401.91; a multifamily dwelling will cost \$1,040.33 and a mobile home will cost \$1,027.65.

The fees will be collected when building permits are issued.

City officials will use the funds to buy recreation sites. The ordinance is scheduled to take effect 90 days after the date of adoption.

The fee was approved, because, with several large-scale developments coming to the area, the city is coming close to violating its comprehensive plan, which calls for 10 acres

THE ISSUE

Belleview voted Tuesday night to implement an impact fee on new home construction coming inside the city.

THE COST

\$1,401.91 for single-family detached dwelling, \$1,040.33 for multifamily dwelling and \$1,027.65 for mobile home.

WHAT'S NEXT?

With its passage, the ordinance will take effect 90 days after the date of adoption.

of recreational space per 1,000 residents.

Currently, the city has 40.7 acres of parks and recreation space available, with a population estimated at 3,859.

Goldman balked at supporting the measure in the first reading, mainly because he wanted to know if the city could have included a large portion of its ballpark - 60 acres - as part of the recreational property.

Land Development Coordinator Jeff Shrum said that it was not possible because Marion County leases the land to the city.

"They consider it their property," Shrum told city officials at Tuesday's meeting.

Austin L. Miller may be reached at austin.miller@starbanner.com or 867-4118.