

Final decision on Destin impact fees ahead?

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By By Fraser Sherman

Will Tuesday be the night Destin City Council decides whether to raise the city's impact fees?

Last year a city consultant said Destin's fees should be increased by 10 to reflect the real impact of growth on roads, parks and other city services. The council voted instead to double the fees, though some fees on specific kinds of construction may be higher or lower than that.

Since then, the council members have been debating with builders, residents and each other over whether that increase is too high, not high enough or whether impact fees are acceptable at all.

An increase in the police impact fee passed earlier this year. Tuesday the council is scheduled to make a final decision on the remaining three fees.

Also on Tuesday's agenda:

- Proclaiming Destin Middle School Cheerleaders Day to salute the DMS Cheerleaders coming in first in a national competition.
- Renaming Two Trees Road as Indian Bayou Trail, one of the terms Indian Bayou Properties requested in return for selling land to the city to extend Commons Drive to Airport Road.
- A request for council support for a proposed Coast Guard monument.
- A report from city staff on whether to demolish the recreation building at Buck Destin Park or remodel it to become ADA compliant.

The council normally meets Monday, but the City Charter requires the council not to meet on the same night Destin Water Users has its annual board meeting.

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