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Washington Township, Pa., traffic impact fee ruling delayed

Supervisors delayed discussion and possible decision because two of the five board members were absent from the meeting

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WAYNESBORO, Pa.

Debate about possibly lowering the Washington Township, Pa., traffic impact fees will continue.

On Monday, the township supervisors delayed their discussion and possible decision about impact fees because two of the five board members were absent from the meeting. The board is considering lowering the fee from \$3,147 for each “traffic unit” to \$2,485 per unit.

The fees are related to traffic generated by a new home or business within a certain geographic zone.

Revenue from impact fees has been earmarked for development of Washington Township Boulevard, a multimillion-dollar relief route north of Waynesboro.

For years, developers have complained to the township supervisors about the impact fees, saying they often start at \$100,000 for commercial projects. They have said that can affect which entities are willing to do business in the township.

In mid-June, the supervisors met behind closed doors to discuss the possibility of lowering the fees. That proposal to lower them came from a volunteer committee.

Supervisors Stephen Kulla, Elaine Gladhill and William Conrad on Monday decided to delay discussion until their July 15 meeting. They said they wanted to be joined by fellow supervisors Jeff Geesaman and Dick McCracken, who were absent Monday.

“It’s still in flux,” Township Manager Mike Christopher said.

Washington Township Boulevard is open from its intersection at Pa. 16 near Walmart to Old Forge Road. A bridge off Country Club Road is completed and awaits paving to extend the relief route there.

Geesaman recently said the board needs a Pennsylvania Department of Transportation highway occupancy permit for a portion of a tract near Old Forge Road before Washington Township Boulevard can be connected there.

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