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Lee County impact fee debate continues

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Lee County-- Lee County commissioners are a step closer to getting rid of controversial impact fees.

Tuesday night, commissioners heard the first reading of an ordinance that would repeal impact fees on residential and commercial development instituted a year ago. Some commissioners say the fees are hindering growth.

Two potential developers say they won't pay them. The board decided to have the original Impact Fee Advisory committee along with a local developer take another look at the fees.

"What's so wonderful about the impact fee process is it's intended to be re-evaluated every year and I think it's an incredible decision that we decided to go ahead and put in place another impact fee committee and wait and receive their advice," said Commissioner Jo Ealum.

Ealum would like to keep the impact fees and consider waiving them on a case by case basis. Commissioners will vote on the repeal ordinance at the next meeting.

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