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CIP Committee to proceed with impact fee process

By Betty Aleck
Editor

FERNLEY--The Capital Improvement Advisory Committee was posed a series of question by CIP member Bill Clegg to affirm that the committee is a viable body and thus can proceed.

The discussion took place, although the Fernley City Council at a previous meeting also reaffirmed the impact fee process.

The Committee had selected such projects as the West Fernley Bypass project at a cost of \$17,777,340 and the Nevada Pacific Parkway Project at a cost of \$15,335,496.

The city has estimated it could collect approximately \$34.5 million over a period of ten years.

At last Wednesday's CIP meeting, Public Works Director Lowell Patton remarked that the City Council at a previous meeting, indirectly apologized and indicated that council members wanted the CIP Committee to continue and also appreciated their work.

He also told the CIP committee that they could not disband themselves and by a vote of the City Council only could such action take place.

Clegg remarked he decided to pose questions to the committee because there have been misconceptions and misinterpretations among the membership. And thus he noted, "We can come to a consensus to what we think we need to do the job."

One such question was whether the group should continue, to which all six members indicated in the affirmative.

Committee member Ray Lowery was absent.

Another question asked members if they felt comfortable with the consultant Orth Rogers, to which the vote was split 3-3, with Committee members Ray Lacy, Bert McCoy and Committee Chairman Tica Looper indicating they were not comfortable with the firm.

Lacy remarked that the company used Washoe County and Las Vegas figures to determine the impact fee and noted Fernley didn't have a large population like those cities.

McCoy agreed with Lacy, and added that those areas are different than Fernley.

Patton reported that Orth Rogers would be using its Carson City firm to handle Fernley's impact fee progress, rather than the Las Vegas firm.

He added that he CIP committee had asked Orth Rogers to use the Washoe County figures.

Another question involved whether the Committee was comfortable with the land use assumptions, to which resulted in a 4-2 vote with the majority feeling some discomfort, the only two that were comfortable with the land use assumptions were McCoy and Lacy.

Patton remarked that possibly that the issue of land use assumptions and Orth Rogers as the consultant could be discussed at an upcoming workshop between the committee and local developers and builders.
