



THE NEWS Guard web edition



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System development charges will increase

Published: June 14, 2005

By BILL CHOY

The News Guard

The City Council of Lincoln City approved an increase in wastewater system development charges for residences and commercial/ industrial buildings at its Monday evening council meeting.

The wastewater SDC will go from \$2,592 to \$4,355 for those residences with a 5/8-by-3/4-inch water meter service that connects to the city's wastewater system. Other rates vary for residential (including lodging facilities) development.

The system development charges for larger size commercial/ industrial meters will increase proportionately with the increase in the service capacity of the meter.

The proposed SDC will apply to all future developments inside the city and outside the city that connect to the city's wastewater system.

Ray Bartlett of the Economic and Financial Analysis of Vancouver, Wash., which helped the city update its SDC, was present to answer any questions.

Before the decision was made, there was a public hearing for anyone to speak about any questions or concerns they had about the increase. No one spoke.

The current SDC reimbursement fee was originally adopted in 1991 and was based on a 1974 wastewater master plan and a 1980 wastewater treatment plan. Since 1994, the city has not changed the wastewater SDC, but has completed several capital improvements. The 2004 Wastewater Facilities Plan was recently completed.

In other council matters:

- Three council members were unable to attend the council meeting on Monday. Mayor Lori Hollingsworth and Wes Ryan were on vacation, and Rick Brissette had a family emergency to attend to.
- The council approved a land donation from Gisela Green of two acres for Open Space Land. The proposed property ties into an existing open space property, the Cutler City Open Space.

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The donated site contains several large Sitka spruce, a small pond and serves as natural filtration for adjoining wetlands.

- City Manager David Hawker announced that recently he had a meeting with county officials in regards to Lincoln County's effort to transfer some open space land and roads to Lincoln City.

He said "major issues" still existed between the two parties. He said they plan to soon set up a meeting with city Public Works Director Lila Bradley and her county counterpart to discuss and work on issues both parties have.

At a May 4 joint session of the city council and the Lincoln County Commissioners, the county presented a memorandum of understanding to the council in an effort to move forward on the transfer of open space property in the Nelscott area and six road transfers.

At the May 9 council meeting, Hawker recommended not to approve the memorandum as written, with the council voting to table the issue.



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