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Council says no to developer impact fees for city

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The Daily Dispatch

Golf course trail fees, development fees and computers for the library were some of the issues discussed at Wednesday's City Council meeting.

The trail fees at the Douglas Municipal Golf Course were amended Wednesday. As it stood, the golf course charged a \$5 trail fee to golfers who owned their own golf carts and used them at the Douglas Golf Course. The amendment removed the \$5 trail fee.

In other fees involving the city, the council did not pass an ordinance that would have increased a water impact fee. The council took a hard look at the one-time development fee, especially after several Douglas homebuilders told the council that the increase would be detrimental to their businesses. The city had suggested a \$3,400 water impact fee for all new connections to new homes in Douglas.

For a 3/4 inch meter, the cost would be \$3,400. The fee increases as the meter size increases. For now there will be no water impact fee increase, and so they will remain the same, which is about \$900.

The council approved a grant that would provide \$36,750 for computers, software and instruction for the Douglas Public Library. The grant was provided by the Arizona State Library with Library Services and Technology Act funds. The grant will allow the library to increase the number of computer classes offered to the public, increase the number of computers as well as give people some education material.

The grant would buy 16 laptops, laptop storage carts, instructor's compensation and other equipment.

In other action the council approved:

√ Third reading of ordinance 8-920, which authorizes the city to buy real property from Sam Siebenberg. The property will be used for the proposed Government Plaza.

√ Resolution 08-538, which authorizes an intergovernmental agreement to improve the coordination and delivery of emergency services within Cochise County.

√ Resolution 08-539, which approves the application for the Economic Strength Project Program grant funds from the Arizona Department of Commerce and allocating of up to \$50,000 of in-kind matching funds.

√ Resolution 08-540, which authorizes an intergovernmental agreement between the city and Arizona Department of Public Safety to enhance domestic preparedness through the terrorism liaison officer program.

