



kdmminer.com

Impact fee cut hearing Monday *Wastewater plant decision also possible*

James Chilton
Miner Staff Reporter

Sunday, November 16, 2008

The City council will consider a robust agenda at its meeting Monday evening, with impact fees and the Hilltop Wastewater Treatment plant topping the bill.

Council will conduct a public hearing on its earlier decision to pursue halving the largest portion of the city's much-maligned impact fees. Council voted Sept. 2 to initiate the process to cut transportation development investment fees by 50 percent, but Arizona Revised Statutes require the city to hold a public hearing on the cuts no fewer than 60 days after initiation.

Following Monday's public hearing, Council must wait at least another 30 days before adopting an ordinance amending the fees.

The transportation fees make up about \$13 million, or 24 percent, of the city's current \$54.4 million in transportation capital improvements. If reduced by half, the city would have to find an additional \$6.5 million from other sources to maintain the same capital improvements.

Council also will consider whether to approve an amendment to the city's agreement with Brown & Caldwell, the consultant company that has been designing the plans for the expansion and upgrade of the Hilltop Wastewater Treatment Plant.

The city already has spent more than \$2.5 million on the plant's design, which includes the city's initial agreement with Brown & Caldwell, as well as four prior amendments. The proposed fifth amendment would allocate an additional \$1,663,293 from the city's design loan with the state Water Infrastructure and Finance Authority to go toward the first phase of a construction management proposal by Brown & Caldwell.

The money would essentially pay Brown & Caldwell to manage a host of items related to the bidding and construction processes, including the review and recommendation of bids, review of contractor materials, project inspection and quality assurance.

The plans for the Hilltop Plant are already complete and awaiting final approval from the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality. Bids are scheduled to be opened in February and Council expects to award a contract in March.

Elsewhere on the agenda, Council will consider what action to take regarding the old JC Penney's building it uses to house the Development Services Department. The city leases the building at 201 N. Fourth St. for \$6,750 a month. The lease is set to expire if the city does not choose to extend it by Jan. 31.

The lease agreement also allows the city to buy the building outright for \$950,000, or \$875,000 if the city either adopts a new lease through part of 2009 or chooses to purchase the building before Dec. 31. Staff has recommended that Council agree to buy the building before year's end.

Finally, Council will consider what to do with its residential property at 150 Spruce St. The property previously operated as a safe house for abuse victims before the occupant, Kingman Aid to Abused People, relocated.

The city has received two proposals for the property. The first is to open Cornerstone Mission's Faith House, a supervised transitional housing facility for displaced women and women with children. That may require a conditional use permit.

The second proposal would convert the house into SOLO, a supervised day training facility for adults and children with developmental disabilities.

Monday's meeting begins at 6 p.m. in the Council Chambers at 310 N. Fourth St.

For further agenda details, visit http://cityclerk.cityofkingman.gov/council_docs.asp.

Related Links

Content © 2008 Kingman Daily Miner/kdminer.com
Software © 1998-2008 1up! Software, All Rights Reserved