

Impact fees on Sen. Dean's property called into question

Submitted by Robby Douglas on Tue, 08/11/2009 - 1:27pm.

A statement in a county press release caused concern for one Citrus County Citrus County resident.

Lecanto resident Chris Lloyd said he had an issue with a statement in a county news release, and brought his complaint before the county commission today.

In a release to news media, it was noted that impact fees would not need to be paid on Sen. Charlie Dean's (R-Inverness) property near Inverness. The news release concludes by saying, "Dean was not required to pay an impact fee on the structure because there had been a mobile home on the property prior to the new structure. That is normal procedure in replacement of a structure. Dean's application includes a permit to remove the mobile home."

Lloyd said his initial reaction to the person who told him about the news release was, "Are you mad?" He rhetorically asked the commissioners today, "Is this Citrus County, Florida or Make-A-Wish Foundation?"

In reply, County Administrator Brad Thorpe said the news release was intended as a status report on the Dean property, as reflected as that status currently stands. It does not mean, he said, that Dean will not have to pay impact fees. "I realize the sensitivity of this case," Thorpe said, adding that he knew any status report would be open to public record and scrutiny.

If the need to pay impact fees on the property are required, Thorpe said, Dean will have to pay them. "We will treat Dean as any other citizen. We will do no more and no less."
