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MEMO

TO: Public Works
FROM: Brad Solon, Building Official
DATE: January 26, 2006
SUBJECT: Fee Increase Public Meeting

On Tuesday January 24, 2006 staff conducted a public meeting concerning the license fee increase as request by the City Council. Several contractors from many different trades attended the meeting. The following individuals attended the meeting:

Scott Sogge, Remodel King
Dan Michaels, Action Mechanical
Dennis Radke, Radke Construction
Wayne Loof, Integrity Homes
Jeanette McIntyre, BHHB
Rod Holmes, Rod Holmes Plumbing
Brad Bilka, Pine Tree Plumbing
Dennis Coran, Tessiers
Don Williams, Advance Home Repair
Tom Hagemann, Action Mechanical
Kent Eccleston, Street Heating
Steve Darling, PDI
Larry Noble, Development Services
Dave Baumberger, Plumbing Inspector
Bernie Hall, Electrical Inspector
Brad Solon, Building Official

The group generally was very concerned about contractor fees and there was much debate concerning the fee increases being considered. Within the group, none of those

in attendance were opposed to the increase.

It should be noted that the Black Hills Homebuilders representatives expressed a strong preference to see some direct benefit resulting from the increase in fees such as additional contractor education. The group opposed inconsistent fee amounts especially in the contractor categories. There was great concern that the apprentice categories should have no fee, similar to the electrical apprentice. The group stated there should be a commercial contractor license. The group favored the creation of a construction trades category to license, or regulates other trades such as concrete, drywall, handyman and roofing which currently are exempted.

The group also pointed out they would prefer that fees be increased when necessary and not to require an increase after thirty (30) years.

Other input from the group, although not on the agenda, was their suggestion to increase the house moving permit as well since these permits are \$25. Additional suggestions included Increasing the off-premise license fee and requiring a fee for exempt signs.