

By Jan Schultz

The Imperial Republican

City officials learned recently a petition drive is needed for a fire hall bond issue to be placed before city voters.

City Clerk/Administrator Jo Leyland said the need for a petition arose when she was visiting with the city's bond agent about verbiage for the ballot question. She learned that a petition must be presented to the council asking for the ballot measure when it involves a public safety building such as a fire hall.

Law states that the petition must have valid signatures from 10 percent of the people who voted in the last municipal election. In Imperial's case, 903 voted in the most recent election, meaning just over 90 petition names will be needed.

Members of the IVFD will get the needed signatures, but that will take time along with the continued site research underway.

City Attorney Josh Wendell said the dollar amount to be sought in the bond issue must also be on the petition form.

Until the site is finalized and preliminary plans drawn, all which affect the cost, that dollar figure cannot be known, so the bond issue question will not be on the May ballot due to time constraints.

Leyland said after the petition names are gathered, they will have to be certified to determine if a minimum of 90 are registered voters. Then, the city council will vote on a resolution to place

the issue up for a vote.