

Mayor and Council Communication

DATE: 02/18/20

M&C FILE NUMBER: M&C 20-0098

LOG NAME: 60TAP FEES 2020

SUBJECT

Adopt an Ordinance Amending Chapter 35 "Water and Sewers," Article III "Charges", Sections 35-57 "Definitions", 35-57.4 "Water Tap Connections", 35-57.5 "Sewer Tap Connections" and 35-57.6 "Deep Sewer" of the City Code to Revise the Water and Sewer Tap Fees and Policy (ALL COUNCIL DISTRICTS)

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council adopt the attached ordinance amending Chapter 35 "Water and Sewers," Article III "Charges", Sections 35-57 "Definitions", 35-57.4 "Water Tap Connections", 35-57.5 "Sewer Tap Connections" and 35-57.6 "Deep Sewer" of the City Code to revise the water and sewer tap fees and policy to be effective on April 1, 2020.

DISCUSSION:

The Water Department conducted an internal cost of service assessment and reviewed the current costs associated with water and sewer tap connections. Material costs, equipment costs, and labor costs have all increased since the last time the fees were adjusted in 2007.

The proposed tap fee increase will recover the actual costs incurred by the City when providing tap installation services for developers. Developers may use this service at their option, in lieu of hiring independent engineers and contractors to construct the water and sewer taps for their developments.

Other proposed changes to the ordinance include:

- Adding short vs. long taps as separate fee categories
- Increasing tap fees and adding manhole cost to recover actual costs
- Adding a Tap Removal Policy and fee
- Adding criteria for installation options:
 - Tap requests with a pavement age of two years or less will only be performed through the Community Facility Agreement (CFA) process
 - Tap requests with a depth of twelve feet or less and located outside of the central business district may be requested under the department's miscellaneous contracts
 - Tap requests with depth of eight feet or less located outside of central business district may be installed under this ordinance

The asphalt overlay costs associated with the Utility Street Cut Policy are anticipated to be effective in the future, once those costs are approved by City Council and adopted by Ordinance.

The Water Department presented these proposed changes and increases in water and sewer tap fees to the following committees and received favorable support:

- Development Advisory Committee - June 20th and August 15th
- Infrastructure and Transportation Committee - November 12th

A Form 1295 is not required because: This M&C does not request approval of a contract with a business entity.

FISCAL INFORMATION / CERTIFICATION:

The Director of Finance certifies that the Water Department is responsible for collection of funds due to the City by adoption of this ordinance.

Submitted for City Manager's Office by: Dana Burgdoff 8018

Originating Business Unit Head: Chris Harder 5020

Additional Information Contact: Wendy Chi-Babulal 8242

