

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA INFORMATION SHEET

AGENDA DATE: July 25, 2017

DEPARTMENT: Utility Administration

ACM: Mario Canizares

SUBJECT:

Consider adoption of an ordinance amending the schedule of Water Rates contained in Ordinance No. 2016-274 for Water Taps and Meter Fees and amending section 26-126.1.e of the Denton Code of Ordinances; providing for a repealer; providing for a severability clause; and providing for an effective date. The Public Utility Board recommends approval (7-0).

BACKGROUND:

Per City Council request, staff presented a Council Work Session item on fire sprinkler tap fees on April 18, 2017. Issues discussed during this Work Session included the history behind language in Section 26-126.1 of the Code of Ordinances regarding waiving fire sprinkler tap fees and discussions of the various Tap and Meter fees that are within the City of Denton Utility Rate Schedule. Following this discussion, Council directed staff to make the following revisions:

1. Remove references to waiving fees for fire sprinkler taps from Section 26-126.1 of the Code of Ordinances and the Water Rate Schedule.
2. Continue to collect fire sprinkler tap fees.
3. Clarify what is included in the standard Water Tap and Meter Fees.
4. Clarify when a special price quote to perform nonstandard work (fees for installations not listed) applies.

Staff presented these revisions to the Public Utility Board on May 22, 2017, and the Board unanimously recommended approval. The proposed revisions as presented to the Public Utility Board are provided as Exhibits 2 and 3. Staff then presented the revisions to the City Council on July 18, 2017. Council directed staff to clarify that “extension of a main or service line to the back side of a street curb line or street right of way” meant an adjacent street curb line or street right of way. Staff has added this text. Council then recommended that staff bring the final ordinance forward to Council as a Consent Agenda Item on July 25, 2017.

OPTIONS:

1. Approve the ordinance amending Section 26-126.1 of the Denton Code of Ordinances. and Ordinance 2016-274 Water Rate Schedule “Water Tap and Meter Fees” as submitted.
2. Direct staff to make additional revisions or take other action.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends Option 1.

PRIOR ACTION/REVIEW (Council, Boards, Comissions):

City Council Work Session; April 18, 2017.
Public Utility Board Item for Individual Consideration; May 22, 2017.
City Council Work Session; July 18, 2017.

FISCAL INFORMATION:

Fire tap and meter fees are variable costs related to development activity. In 2015, total tap fees collected for fire lines were \$35,500, and 2016 fees are estimated at approximately \$40,800.

STRATEGIC PLAN RELATIONSHIP

The City of Denton's Strategic Plan is an action-oriented road map that will help the City achieve its vision. The foundation for the plan is the five long-term Key Focus Areas (KFA): Organizational Excellence; Public Infrastructure; Economic Development; Safe, Livable, and Family-Friendly Community; and Sustainability and Environmental Stewardship. While individual items may support multiple KFAs, this specific City Council agenda item contributes most directly to the following KFA and goal:

Related Key Focus Area: **Public Infrastructure**
Related Goal: **2.3 Promote superior utility services and facilities**

EXHIBITS

1. Agenda Information Sheet (AIS).
2. Proposed Amendments to Chapter 26, Section 26-126.1 of the Denton Code of Ordinances
3. Proposed Amendments to Ordinance 2016-274 Water Rate Schedule, Water Tap and Meter Fees
4. Ordinance

Respectfully submitted:

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Prepared by:

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