

City of Columbia

701 East Broadway, Columbia, Missouri 65201



Agenda Item Number: B 244-14

Department Source: Water & Light

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: August 4, 2014

Re: Amending Chapter 27 of the City Code as it relates to water backflow prevention charges

Documents Included With This Agenda Item

Council memo, Resolution/Ordinance

Supporting documentation includes: None

Executive Summary

The FY15 budget adds a staff position to meet the required work load of our water backflow prevention program. The FY15 proposed budget includes changes to the monthly charge to cover the cost of auditing backflow devices installed at customer locations.

Discussion

A backflow device is installed on the water line of certain customers as a precaution against contaminants entering the general water system. Backflow devices are required on irrigation systems, commercial kitchens, laboratories, and various industrial processes.

The water utility is required by the State of Missouri to insure that annual operational testing of each backflow device is completed and reported. The monthly backflow device charge covers the staff time to audit customer locations insuring all devices are installed, customer notification of operational test anniversary, insure testing by certified personnel is completed, report all findings to the State of Missouri; and maintain all the necessary records.

The FY15 budget adds a staff position to assist the other existing position with the required work load. The existing position has not been available to audit the water system to insure all required backflow devices have been installed.

The FY15 proposed budget includes changes to the monthly charge for backflow device installed at a customer locations. The increase in the monthly charge is requested to cover the cost of the additional staff position. Only those customers that have backflow devices installed at their location will be impacted by the increase in the charge.

The backflow device charge, for customer living inside the city limits, is proposed to increase from \$1.00 per month per backflow device to \$2.00 per month per backflow device. For customer living outside the city limits the charge will be \$2.66 per month per backflow device except for those customers living in the boundaries of dissolved Public Water Supply Districts No. 1 and No. 2 where the charge will be \$2.31 per month per backflow device.

Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: Estimated annual revenue from proposed increase is \$74,000.

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Long-Term Impact: Estimated annual revenue from proposed increase is \$74,000.

Vision, Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impact

Vision Impact: Not Applicable

Strategic Plan Impact: Financial Health

Comprehensive Plan Impact: Not Applicable

Suggested Council Action

Staff recommends Council approve the FY15 changes to Backflow Prevention Charges

Legislative History

7/30/14 Reviewed by Water & Light Advisory Board


Department Approved


City Manager Approved

Introduced by _____

First Reading _____

Second Reading _____

Ordinance No. _____

Council Bill No. B 244-14

AN ORDINANCE

amending Chapter 27 of the City Code as it relates to water backflow prevention charges; and fixing the time when this ordinance shall become effective.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBIA, MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Chapter 27 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia, Missouri, is hereby amended as follows:

Material to be deleted in ~~strikeout~~; material to be added underlined.

Sec. 27-122. Water rates inside city limits—Residential/commercial multiple-family facilities.

(a) The rates to be charged for water furnished to residential customers, commercial multiple family facilities customers, and multiple commercial facilities served with one meter, within the city limits of the city are hereby fixed as follows:

...

- (4) Backflow prevention charge per month, charged in addition to the volume charge in subsection (a)(1), the minimum charge in subsection (a)(2), and the fire flow charge in subsection (a)(3), is charged when a customer is required to install a backflow prevention device as outlined in section 27-57.

For each backflow device at a customer location ~~\$1.00~~ 2.00

...

Sec. 27-122.1. Same—Commercial.

(a) The rates to be charged for water furnished to commercial customers within the city limits who use fifty thousand (50,000) cubic feet (500 ccf) or less per month average during nonsummer months (October through May) are hereby fixed as follows:

...

- (4) Backflow prevention charge per month, charged in addition to the volume charge in subsection (a)(1), the minimum charge in subsection (a)(2), and the fire flow charge in subsection (a)(3), is charged when a customer is required to install a backflow prevention device as outlined in section 27-57.

For each backflow device at a customer location ~~\$1.00~~ 2.00

...

Sec. 27-122.2. Same—Large commercial.

(a) The rates to be charged for water furnished to commercial customers within the city limits who use more than fifty thousand (50,000) cubic feet (500 ccf) per month average during nonsummer months (October through May) are hereby fixed as follows:

...

- (4) Backflow prevention charge per month, charged in addition to the volume charge in subsection (a)(1), the minimum charge in subsection (a)(2), and the fire flow charge in subsection (a)(3), is charged when a customer is required to install a backflow prevention device as outlined in section 27-57.

For each backflow device at a customer location ~~\$1.00~~ 2.00

...

Sec. 27-123. Water rates outside city limits—Residential/commercial multiple-family facilities.

(a) The rates to be charged for water furnished to residential customers, commercial multiple-family facilities customers, and multiple commercial facilities served with one (1) meter, outside the city limits are hereby fixed as follows:

...

- (4) Backflow prevention charge per month, charged in addition to the volume charge in subsection (a)(1), the minimum charge in subsection (a)(2), and the fire flow charge in subsection (a)(3), is charged when a customer is required to install a backflow prevention device as outlined in section 27-57.

For each backflow device at a customer location ~~\$1.33~~ 2.66

...

Sec. 27-123.1. Same—Commercial.

(a) The rates to be charged for water furnished to commercial customers outside the city limits who use fifty thousand (50,000) cubic feet (500 ccf) or less per month average during nonsummer months (October through May) are hereby fixed as follows:

...

- (4) Backflow prevention charge per month, charged in addition to the volume charge in subsection (a)(1), the minimum charge in subsection (a)(2), and the fire flow charge in subsection (a)(3), is charged when a customer is required to install a backflow prevention device as outlined in section 27-57.

For each backflow device at a customer location ~~\$1.33~~ 2.66

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Sec. 27-123.2. Same—Large commercial.

(a) The rates to be charged for water furnished to commercial customers outside the city limits who use more than fifty thousand (50,000) cubic feet (500 ccf) per month average during nonsummer months (October through May) are hereby fixed as follows:

...

- (4) Backflow prevention charge per month, charged in addition to the volume charge in subsection (a)(1), the minimum charge in subsection (a)(2), and the fire flow charge in subsection (a)(3), is charged when a customer is required to install a backflow prevention device as outlined in section 27-57.

For each backflow device at a customer location ~~\$1.33~~ 2.66

...

Sec. 27-124. Water rates, within former boundaries of dissolved Public Water Supply Districts No. 1 and No. 2, outside city limits—Residential/commercial multiple-family facilities.

(a) The rates to be charged for water furnished to residential customers, commercial multiple-family facilities customers, and multiple commercial facilities served with one meter, outside the city limits within the former boundaries of dissolved Public Water Supply Districts No. 1 and No. 2 are hereby fixed as follows:

...

- (4) Backflow prevention charge per month, charged in addition to the volume charge in subsection (a)(1), the minimum charge in subsection (a)(2), and the fire flow charge in subsection (a)(3), is charged when a customer is required to install a backflow prevention device as outlined in section 27-57.

For each backflow device at a customer location ~~\$1.16~~ 2.31

...

Sec. 27-124.1. Same—Commercial.

(a) The rates to be charged for water furnished to commercial customers outside the city limits within the former boundaries of dissolved Public Water Supply Districts No. 1 and No. 2, who use fifty thousand (50,000) cubic feet (500 ccf) or less per month average during nonsummer months (October through May) are hereby fixed as follows:

...

- (4) Backflow prevention charge per month, charged in addition to the volume charge in subsection (a)(1), the minimum charge in subsection (a)(2), and the fire flow charge in subsection (a)(3), is charged when a customer is required to install a backflow prevention device as outlined in section 27-57.

For each backflow device at a customer location ~~\$1.16~~ 2.31

...

Sec. 27-124.2. Same—Large commercial.

(a) The rates to be charged for water furnished to commercial customers outside the city limits within the former boundaries of dissolved Public Water Supply District No. 1, who use more than fifty thousand (50,000) cubic feet (500 ccf) per month average during nonsummer months (October through May) are hereby fixed as follows:

...

- (4) Backflow prevention charge per month, charged in addition to the volume charge in subsection (a)(1), the minimum charge in subsection (a)(2), and the fire flow charge in subsection (a)(3), is charged when a customer is required to install a backflow prevention device as outlined in section 27-57.

For each backflow device at a customer location ~~\$1.16~~ 2.31

...

SECTION 2. The new rates established in this ordinance shall be applied to utility bills beginning with the first complete cycle billed after October 1, 2014.

SECTION 3. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage.

PASSED this _____ day of _____, 2014.

ATTEST:

City Clerk

Mayor and Presiding Officer

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

City Counselor