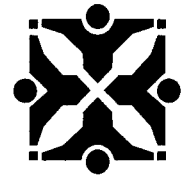


City of Columbia

701 East Broadway, Columbia, Missouri 65201



Agenda Item Number: B151-14

Department Source: Water & Light

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: June 2, 2014

Re: Non-Standard Electric Meter Option

Documents Included With This Agenda Item

Council memo, Resolution/Ordinance

Supporting documentation includes: NA

Executive Summary

This Ordinance establishes an option for customers to request a Non-Standard Electric Meter. Use of non-standard electric metering means not utilizing what the utility is installing as the standard utility meter. The cost to receive service with the Non-Standard Electric Meter is detailed in this proposed Ordinance revision. Customers choosing this option would be converted to older electromechanical meters, which must be read manually. The cost to provide this service will be included in the annual budget review process.

Discussion

Columbia Water & Light (CWL) typically uses Automatic Meter Reading (AMR) technology for collection of consumption data from electric customers. Currently CWL Meter Readers gather electric consumption data using handheld mobile or "drive by" devices to interface with the AMR meters. While we currently only collect this information once a month, as the Smart Grid Study indicates, a fixed collection network can be set up to collect this information on a more frequent basis. For the initial start of the non-standard meter option, the cost to provide this service is detailed below. Future changes in electric meter collection systems will result in rate changes to provide this option:

- Monthly Customer Charge will increase by \$5/month. This charge increase is due to:
 - Manual reading of electric meter
 - Increased calibration frequency
 - Checking for manual data errors
- Meter Conversion Charge of \$75 as a onetime charge. This charge is to cover:
 - Purchasing, refurbishing, calibrating and testing of non-standard meter
 - Personnel and equipment time related to change out of metering

Below is sample information that can be used to educate consumers about this option.



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Non-Standard Meter Option

We support individual choice for residential customers when it comes to their home electricity meter. You may choose between our standard meter and an analog meter.

Potential Standard Meter Benefits	 Standard Meter	 Analog Meter
No meter readers on property	✓	
Outage detection	✓	
Meter & home communication capability	✓	
More reliable service	✓	
Set up charge	None	\$75.00*
Monthly manual read charge	None	\$5.00*

*per current Fee Schedule

Please note that standard meter-enabled benefits will not be available when you switch to an analog meter. Special conditions apply. Call Customer Care for more information.

How to request non-standard meter

Ways to request a non-standard meter:

- Call Utility Customer Service:
 - Automated Phone System: (573) 874-7694
 - Customer Service Representatives: (573) 874-7380
 - Customer Service Supervisor: (573) 874-7458
- Visit our website at GoColumbiaMO.com

Non-standard meter charges

If you switch to a non-standard meter, charges will be added to your bill. These charges are set by City Council. They include a one-time \$75 Non-Standard Meter Fee for purchasing, calibrating, testing and installing the non-standard meter and a \$5 Non-Standard Meter Monthly Manual Read Fee.

If You Decide to Go Back to a Standard Meter

You can switch from analog back to a smart meter by calling Utility Customer Service. There is no charge to switch back. The monthly \$5 fee will be discontinued starting with the month following the switch back to standard metering.

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Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: NA

Long-Term Impact: NA

Vision, Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impact

Vision Impact: Not Applicable

Strategic Plan Impact: Not Applicable

Comprehensive Plan Impact: Not Applicable

Suggested Council Action

Approve Ordinance revision establishing a Non-Standard Electric Meter Option

Legislative History

4/9/14 Water & Light Advisory Board Review and Recommended for Approval


Department Approved


City Manager Approved

Introduced by _____

First Reading _____

Second Reading _____

Ordinance No. _____

Council Bill No. B 151-14

AN ORDINANCE

amending Chapter 27 of the City Code to establish a non-standard electric meter option; 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. 27-86. Definitions.

For the purpose of this division, the following words and terms shall have the meanings respectively ascribed:

...

Meter socket. A device used for mounting and connecting the electric meter.

Non-standard electric meter. Any electric meter that does not conform to the department's predominate specifications for electric meters will be considered non-standard. Non-standard electric meters shall be electro-mechanical in design and shall not have any radio read equipment installed. All department meters, including non-standard meters, must meet American National Standards Institute C12.1 and C12.20 standards.

Service drop. The overhead wires or cables installed from the department's electric line to the first point of attachment to the customer's building or other structure.

...

Sec. 27-95. Secondary metering.

(a) The department shall furnish the electric meter and meter socket. The meter loop, including all conduit, wire, fittings, fasteners and other accessories required for mounting and connecting the meter shall be furnished, installed and maintained by the customer.

(b) If a residential customer requests that a non-standard electric meter be installed, the customer shall pay a nonrefundable fee of seventy-five dollars (\$75.00) for the department to select, purchase, test and install the non-standard electric meter. Non-standard electric meters will not be installed for non-residential services.

...

Sec. 27-112. Same—Residential service rate.

...

(c) *Monthly rate charge.* The monthly rate ~~per kilowatt hour~~ charge shall be as follows, subject to fuel adjustments as provided in section 27-118:

- (1) Customer charge \$ 8.45 per month
Non-standard electric meter customer charge \$13.45 per month

...

Sec. 27-113. Same--Residential heat pump rate.

...

(c) *Monthly rate charge:* The monthly rate charge shall be as follows, subject to fuel adjustments as provided in section 27-118:

Customer charge\$ 8.45 monthly
Non-standard electric meter customer charge\$13.45 monthly
All kwh above 750 kwh 8.024 cents per kwh

...

SECTION 2. 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