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Public Works

City Transit
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MEMORANDUM

Equipment Maintenance
Roadway Maintenance
Collection & Drainage
Building & Grounds
Engineering

To: Mayor and City Council Members

CC: Gregg Mandsager, City Administrator

FROM: Brian Stineman, Director of Public Works

DATE: March 13, 2017

RE: Recommendation for Spring Clean Up Week

INTRODUCTION:

At the council in-depth meeting on March 2nd, Director Stineman presented the council with a description of the Clean Up Week procedures, the costs associated with them, and potential cost and time-saving methods to increase productivity. During this discussion and in an email this week, council members asked several questions. Answers to those questions are provided in this memo as well as a recommendation for approval.

BACKGROUND:

Council was presented with the costs associated with offering a free clean up week for residents of Muscatine and Fruitland. The dollar value for staff time, equipment, disposal fees, fuel, maintenance and advertising totaled over \$129,000 in Fiscal Year 2016.

The issues of most concern to the Public Works Department are the abuse of the service by both residents and non-residents who are setting out more trash and other items than can be reasonably handled, and the amount of time it takes the Streets and Refuse Collection Divisions away from their regular duties to perform the cleanup. What once took one week now takes twice as long and we are removing three times more material than normal. Incredibly large piles of mixed debris and trash, e-waste, construction waste, and tires pose a threat to the health and safety of city staff.

Several questions were asked during and after the presentation. Those questions have been listed, along with their answers, in the following list:

- **Question:** Does the city receive any money back for recyclable material collected during clean up week?
 - **Answer:** No. Other than scrap metal, we are unable to efficiently sort recyclable material from piles left at residences.
- **Question:** Are we able to determine the cost of disposal of tires and e-waste with labor included?
 - **Answer, e-waste:** The city pays \$0.20 per pound to dispose of e-waste. Last year we took in 110,329 pounds for a cost of \$22,750.80.
 - Last year it took approximately 360 hours for two full-time and three temporary workers to remove all e-waste at a cost of \$5,175.36
 - Total cost with for removal of e-waste was \$27,926.16
 - **Answer, tires:** The city pays \$2,345.52 per semi load to dispose of tires. Last year we took six semi loads at a cost of \$14,073.12.
 - Last year it took approximately 216 hours for one full-time and two temporary workers to pick up all tires at a cost of \$2,982.24
 - Total cost to pick up tires was \$17,055.36
- **Question:** What is the direct cost for weekly pick-up service?
 - **Answer:** Based on the original 2016/2017 budget:
 - The "Direct Cost of Refuse Collection Services" was approx. \$1.2 million.
 - Operational costs of the Compost Site are \$63,400
 - Operational costs for Curbside Recycling are \$373,000
 - Funding to the Building Department for nuisance inspections and abatement is \$45,400
 - The Solid Waste Agency Fee is \$64,800
 - Admin Staff, other costs, and overhead total \$344,700
- **Question:** What are the number of households and the total revenue of the stated rates?
 - **Answer:** Regular rate = \$20 per month; Senior rate = \$15 per month; Fruitland Rate = \$20 per month; Ripley's rate = \$17.50 per month

| Type and Number of Rate Payers | Rate Payers x rate x months = revenue |
|--|--|
| Muscantine Residential Rate Payers: 7125 | $7125 \times \$20 \times 12 = \$1,710,000$ |
| Muscantine Senior Rate Payers: 1158 | $1158 \times \$15 \times 12 = \$208,440$ |
| Muscantine Commercial Customers: 243 | Varies: Estimated revenue = \$157,824 |
| Ripley's Residential Payers: 290 | $290 \times \$17.50 \times 12 = \$60,900$ |
| Fruitland Residential Payers: 335 | $335 \times \$20 \times 12 = \$80,400$ |
| Allowance for uncollected revenue | -\$17,564 |
| Total Revenue: | \$2,200,000 |

- Commercial rates vary. The commercial rate chart is attached.
- **Question:** What is the extent to which we rely on general fund revenues to subsidize "normal" trash collection and separately, clean-up week?
 - **Answer:** We do not rely on the general fund for trash collection or clean-up week.

RECOMMENDATION/RATIONALE:

Public Works staff recommend making the following changes to Clean-up week.

1. Tires and e-waste shall not be picked up at curbside. Residents may deliver them to the Muscatine Transfer Station for no charge during clean-up week as long as they provide proof of residence in Muscatine or Fruitland. Transfer Station staff will remove e-waste items and tires from vehicles for the residents.
2. Construction debris in amounts deemed excessive by city staff will not be picked up at curbside. This is to prevent residents from making the city remove garages, sheds, roofs, or large amounts of remodel debris. Construction debris from residential properties will be accepted at the Transfer Station for no charge during clean-up week as long as proof of residence in Muscatine or Fruitland is provided.
3. All e-waste, tires or excess construction debris left curbside will not be picked up by city staff. A notice letter informing the resident of the new requirements will be left at the property indicating a date when the material shall be removed from curbside. In the event that the notice requirements are not met, the Community Services Division will be instructed to issue notices to remove the materials. Failure to comply with this notice shall result in a citation.
4. Set the dates for the 2017 Clean-up Week as Tuesday, April 25 to Monday, May 1, 2017.

BACKUP INFORMATION:

Commercial rate chart

**City of Muscatine
Refuse Collection
New Commercial Dumpster Rate Schedule Approved by
City Council 7-21-16**

| Size of Dumpster | Number of Pickups per Week | | | | |
|------------------|----------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 2-Yard | \$ 53 | \$ 102 | \$ 150 | \$ 199 | \$ 248 |
| 3-Yard | \$ 64 | \$ 123 | \$ 182 | \$ 242 | \$ 301 |
| 4-Yard | \$ 75 | \$ 145 | \$ 214 | \$ 284 | \$ 354 |

Multiple Dumpsters:

| Size of Dumpster | Number of Pickups per Week | | | | |
|----------------------|----------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 2-2 Yard (x1.75) | \$ 92 | \$ 178 | \$ 263 | \$ 349 | \$ 434 |
| 3-2 Yard (x2.5) | \$ 132 | \$ 254 | \$ 376 | \$ 498 | \$ 620 |
| 2-3 Yard (x1.75) | \$ 112 | \$ 216 | \$ 319 | \$ 423 | \$ 526 |
| 3-3 Yard (x2.5) | \$ 160 | \$ 308 | \$ 456 | \$ 604 | \$ 752 |
| 2-4 Yard (x1.75) | \$ 132 | \$ 253 | \$ 375 | \$ 497 | \$ 619 |
| If Multiple Sizes*** | TBD | TBD | TBD | TBD | TBD |

- * Rates for two containers are shown as 1.75 times the price for one container
- ** Rates for three containers are shown as 2.50 times the price for one container
- *** Rates for customers with multiple sizes - full rate for largest container and 75% for all others

Monthly Rates if Commercial Customers Choose to Change to Carts (Only for Once per Week Pickup and only up to 2 95-Gallon Carts):

| | |
|------------|----------|
| If 1 Cart | \$ 25.00 |
| If 2 Carts | \$ 35.00 |