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**FIRE DEPARTMENT**

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: Mayor and City Council Members  
Gregg Mandsager, City Administrator

FROM: Jerry Ewers, Fire Chief

DATE: March 15, 2011

SUBJECT: Council Agenda / Ordinance Establishing Various Fees

**INTRODUCTION:**

In accordance with the direction of city staff and council the Muscatine Fire Department surveyed other Iowa Fire Departments to review and research various fees for service and associated permits related to fire department operations.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Muscatine City Code provides for a variety of charges (fees) for services. City staff and City Council regularly reviews these charges as part of the annual budget preparation and approval process. The Muscatine Fire Department surveyed other Iowa Fire Departments and compiled a list of comparable fees. After reviewing and analyzing the fees the Fire Department presented the information to council during the March 10<sup>th</sup> in-depth meeting. The projected revenues for implementing the new fees are \$ 21, 160. It should be noted that the majority of these fees are directly related to the cost of providing a particular service. The fees would not go into effect until July 1, 2011. The Fire Department will also provide all businesses affected with a letter prior to July 1, 2011 explaining the new fee structure.

**RECOMMENDATION/RATIONALE:**

It is recommended that City Council approve the attached ordinance on first reading to establish various fire department fees.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. Ordinance
2. Exhibit A

ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 6 FIRE REGULATIONS,  
CHAPTER 1 FIRE DEPARTMENT REGULATIONS, CHAPTER 2 OPEN BURNING, CHAPTER 4  
FIREWORKS AND EXPLOSIVES, AND  
CHAPTER 5 FIRE INSPECTIONS**

Be It Enacted by the City Council of the City of Muscatine, Iowa:

SECTION 1. TITLE 6 FIRE REGULATIONS, CHAPTER 1 FIRE DEPARTMENT REGULATIONS of the City Code of Muscatine is hereby amended to add a new Section 17 to include administrative fees as follows:

**6-1-17 Administrative Fees**

See Attached Exhibit A

SECTION 2. TITLE 6 FIRE REGULATIONS, CHAPTER 1 FIRE DEPARTMENT REGULATIONS of the City Code of Muscatine is hereby amended to add a new Section 18 to include fees for false alarms as follows:

**6-1-18 False Alarms**

Fire Alarm Systems which are monitored will be assessed a fee for false alarms which occur during any consecutive 12-month period of time as follows:

See Attached Exhibit A

SECTION 3. TITLE 6 FIRE REGULATIONS, CHAPTER 1 FIRE DEPARTMENT REGULATIONS of the City Code of Muscatine is hereby amended to add a new Section 19 to include fees for standby as follows:

**6-1-19 Standby Fees**

See Attached Exhibit A

SECTION 4. TITLE 6 FIRE REGULATIONS, CHAPTER 2 OPEN BURNING, SECTION 1 NO OPEN BURNING; PERMIT REQUIRED is hereby amended as follows:

**6-2-1 No Open Burning; Permit Required.** There will be no open burning within the corporate City Limits without a permit having been issued by a representative of the Fire Department or by special exception of City Council. The permit fees shall be as follows:

See Attached Exhibit A

SECTION 5. TITLE 6, FIRE REGULATIONS, CHAPTER 4 FIREWORKS AND EXPLOSIVES of the City Code of Muscatine is hereby amended to add a new Section 10 to include fireworks permit fees as follows:

See Attached Exhibit A

SECTION 6. TITLE 6 FIRE REGULATIONS, CHAPTER 5 FIRE INSPECTIONS is hereby amended as follows:

6-5-1 Inspections. The Fire Prevention Bureau shall inspect, as often as the Chief deems necessary, buildings and premises, including such other hazards or appliances as the Chief may designate for the purpose of ascertaining and causing to be corrected any conditions or violations of provisions of this code or of any other law or standard affecting fire safety. The inspection fees shall be as follows:

See attached Exhibit A

SECTION 7. The fees for inspections contained in this ordinance may be changed by resolution adopted from time to time by the City Council.

SECTION 8. REPEALER. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed.

SECTION 9. SEVERABILITY CLAUSE. If any section, provision or part of this ordinance shall be adjudged invalid or unconstitutional, such adjudication shall not affect the validity of the ordinance as a whole or any section, provision or part thereof not adjudged invalid or unconstitutional.

SECTION 10. WHEN EFFECTIVE. This ordinance shall be in effect from and after its final passage, approval and publication as provided by law.

PASSED by the City Council on \_\_\_\_\_, 2011, and APPROVED on \_\_\_\_\_, 2011.

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Richard W. O'Brien, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Gregg Mandsager, City Clerk

First Reading: \_\_\_\_\_  
Second Reading: \_\_\_\_\_  
Third Reading: \_\_\_\_\_  
Publication: \_\_\_\_\_

## EXHIBIT A

### **Title 6 Chapter 1:**

#### **6-1-17**

##### **ADMINISTRATIVE FEES**

<u>Type</u>	<u>Fee</u>
Copy of Medical Report	\$ 15.00
Copy of Fire Report	\$ 15.00
Fire Investigation Report	\$ 60.00
Copy of photos	\$ 10.00 ea. (photos on cd)
Plan reviews	\$ 50.00 (sprinklers, fire alarms, hood systems)
Site Assessment Fee	\$ 30.00 (per site/property)

### **Title 6 Chapter 1:**

#### **6-1-18**

##### **FALSE ALARMS**

Fire Alarm Systems which are monitored will be assessed a fee for false alarms which occur during any consecutive 12-month period of time as follows:

<u>Type</u>	<u>Fee</u>
1 <sup>st</sup> False Alarm	No charge
2 <sup>nd</sup> False Alarm	No charge
3 <sup>rd</sup> False Alarm	\$ 50.00
4 <sup>th</sup> False Alarm	\$ 100.00
5 <sup>th</sup> or more false alarms	\$ 150.00

**Title 6 Chapter 1:**

**6-1-19**

**STANDBY FEES**

<u>Type</u>	<u>Fee</u>
Apparatus with personnel	\$ 262.09 hr

*\* Minimum of 1 hour. Billed in 15 minute increments beyond first hour.*

**Title 6 Chapter 2:**

**6-2-1 A**

**PERMIT FEES**

<u>Type</u>	<u>Fee</u>	
Authorized Burning	\$ 25.00	(Valid for calendar year)
Fire Pit / Ring	\$ 25.00	(Valid for calendar year)
Commercial Open Burning	\$ 200.00	(Valid for 30 days)

*Note: Permit fees double for failure to obtain permit prior to conducting activities.*

**Title 6 Chapter 4:**

**6-4-10**

**FIREWORKS FEES**

Fireworks	\$ 200.00	(Valid for single event)
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**Title 6 Chapter 5:**

**6-5-1 A**

**FIRE INSPECTION / NON-COMPLIANCE FEES**

**Occupancy Classification Group A, B, E, I, M, S, U**

<u>Type</u>	<u>Fee</u>	
Initial Inspection	\$ 45.00	
1st Re-Inspection	No Charge	(performed 30 days after initial)
2 <sup>nd</sup> Re-Inspection	\$ 50.00	
3 <sup>rd</sup> or more re-Inspections	\$ 100.00	

**Occupancy Classification Group F, H**

<u>Type</u>	<u>Fee</u>	
Initial Inspection	\$ 75.00 hr	(includes inspection and admin time)
1st Re-Inspection	No Charge	(performed 30 days after initial)
2 <sup>nd</sup> or more re-inspections	\$ 75.00 hr	