

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: WATER METER SETTING FEE REVISIONS TO APPENDIX Q

BACKGROUND:

The City Council approved purchase agreements for water meters and related parts on August 13. These new agreements are part of an interim step in an eventual transition to an Automated Meter Reading system. This transition is due to older model meter registers no longer being available.

The meter setting fees shown in Appendix Q of the Municipal Code include, among other things, the cost of the meters and appurtenances. **Because no purchase agreements were in place at the time, those fees were estimated at the start of the fiscal year. With the new meter pricing now finalized, Council directed staff to prepare a revision to Appendix Q to update the meter setting fees.** The attached ordinance accomplishes that direction. Changes between the current and proposed fees are shown below:

Meter & Setting Fees - Disc Style		
5/8" or 5/8" x 3/4" disc	\$215.00	\$295.00
3/4" disc	\$220.00	\$325.00
1" disc	\$255.00	\$350.00
1 1/2" disc	\$605.00	\$655.00
Meter & Setting Fees - Magnetic Style		
1 1/2"	\$1,460.00	\$1,465.00
2"	\$2,095.00	No Change
3"	\$2,770.00	\$2,850.00
4"	\$3,575.00	\$3,560.00
6"	\$5,060.00	\$4,825.00
Meter & Setting Fees - Turbo Style		
2"	\$1,340.00	\$1,690.00
3"	\$2,030.00	\$2,270.00
4"	\$2,765.00	\$3,300.00
6"	\$3,980.00	\$6,075.00
Frozen/damaged Construction Meter	\$215.00	\$295.00

These fees are only charged at the time of initial installation. Perpetual maintenance of the meters, including routine replacement, is built into the overall water rate structure.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the attached ordinance updating the City's water meter setting fees as described above.
2. Do not approve the attached ordinance. Meter setting fees would then remain as shown in the current Appendix Q.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

The fees charged to customers for the initial water meter installation include the cost of the water meter and appurtenances. **The City's cost for purchasing new water meters has changed from what was estimated at the start of the fiscal year. It is appropriate to adjust the meter fees to pass the updated costs on to those who request new water services.**

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, thereby approving on the attached ordinance updating the City's water meter setting fees.

ORDINANCE NO.

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF THE CITY OF AMES, IOWA, BY REPEALING APPENDIX Q WATER AND POLLUTION CONTROL FEES & CHARGES AND ENACTING A NEW APPENDIX Q WATER AND POLLUTION CONTROL FEES & CHARGES THEREOF, FOR THE PURPOSE OF REVISION OF WATER METER FEES; REPEALING ANY AND ALL ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT TO THE EXTENT OF SUCH CONFLICT; AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

BE IT ENACTED, by the City Council for the City of Ames, Iowa, that:

Section One. The Municipal Code of the City of Ames, Iowa shall be and the same is hereby amended by enacting a new Appendix Q as follows:

**APPENDIX Q
WATER AND POLLUTION CONTROL FEES & CHARGES**

“Water Division

Bulk Water Service.....\$0.74/100 gallons

Water Meter Division *

Meter & Setting Fees - Disc Style

5/8" or 5/8 " x 3/4" disc..... **\$295.00**
3/4" disc..... **\$325.00**
1" disc..... **\$350.00**
1½" disc..... **\$655.00**

Meter & Setting Fees - Magnetic Style

1½" **\$1,465.00**
2" **\$2,095.00**
3" **\$2,850.00**
4" **\$3,560.00**
6" **\$4,825.00**

Meter & Setting Fees - Turbo Style

2" **\$1,690.00**
3" **\$2,270.00**
4" **\$3,300.00**
6" **\$6,075.00**

Meter & Setting Fees - Misc. Meters

Larger than 4" or alternative styles

- to be determined when ordered

Hydrant Meter**..... **\$210.00**

Frozen/damaged meter

Construction Meter..... \$295.00

Meters 1-1/2" and larger..... \$120 trip fee + repairs/replacement

Meters 1" and smaller..... \$65.00 trip fee + Depreciated Value

Depreciated Value is a straight line depreciation of the Meter and Setting Fees above, based on length of time meter has been in service.

< 1 year 100%

< 2 years	90%
< 3 years	80%
< 4 years	70%
< 5 years	60%
< 6 years	50%
< 7 years	40%
< 8 years	30%
< 9 years	20%
<10 years.....	10%
>10 years.....	\$0

Unauthorized use of water	\$165.00/occurrence
Unmetered use of water.....	\$2.17/day + \$14.44/month
Resetting fee for unauthorized meter removal	\$ 65.00
Customer requested meter test fee	\$120.00
Service or meter disconnect or reconnect fee	\$ 65.00/trip

* Meter setting fees above include two service trips (one to set the temporary/construction meter, and one to set the permanent meter). A fee of \$65.00 will be charged for additional trips due to unexposed or inoperable curb boxes, incomplete remote wire installations, or other circumstances where the meter installation cannot be completed.

** Hydrant meter fees include the cost to install and remove the meter. Requests to move the meter to a new location will be charged one-half of the hydrant meter fee. Consumption will be billed at the "Irrigation and Yard Water" rate. For usage that covers more than 30 days, the block sizes will be adjusted accordingly.

WPC Division

Waste Hauler Fee - Ames locations*

Domestic/Residential Waste.....	\$43.00/load + \$29.14/100 gallons (\$58.86/cubic yard)
Restaurant Grease Traps	\$43.00/load + \$22.97/100 gallons (\$46.60/cubic yard)
Non-Domestic Waste	\$43.00/load + unit rate to be determined

* Non-Ames location surcharge	15%
Unauthorized Sewer Use.....	\$180.00/occurrence
Unmetered Sewer Use.....	\$2.31/day + \$15.83/month

High-Strength Surcharge Rates

<u>Parameter</u>	<u>Surcharge Rate</u>
Oxygen Demand	
CBOD ₅	\$0.38/lb.
COD	\$0.14/lb.
Nitrogen	
NH ₃ -N	\$1.33/lb.
TKN	\$0.86/lb.
Solids	
TSS	\$0.56/lb.

Section Two. All ordinances, or parts of ordinances, in conflict herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict, if any.

Section Three. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and publication as required by law.

Passed this _____ day of _____, _____.

Diane R. Voss, City Clerk

Ann H. Campbell, Mayor