

CITY OF GROVEPORT
REPORT TO MAYOR AND COUNCIL

April 25, 2016

ADMINISTRATION – Marsha Hall

Legislation

Proposed Changes to Water and Sewer Rules and Regulations (1st Readings)

The purpose for these ordinances is primarily two-fold:

1) Staff has looked at ways to assist Groveport water system customers when making payments. We are developing a flyer to promote pre-payment installments of bills, and we are making it easier for customers to pay their bills online. Neither of these requires Council action. We are proposing a “Hardship Arrangement” which will allow customers to sign an agreement to pay their bill, without late fees, over a three month period if due to a hardship once every four billing cycles. These do require Council action, and the proposed changes to the Rules and Regulations explain this program.

Since we have provided several ways to assist Groveport customers when paying bills, we are proposing an increase for shut offs and tagging customers for shut offs.

We did look at various options regarding senior citizen discounts or removal of the minimum bill. However, either of these would require that we actually increase everyone’s bills in order to account for the reduced revenue based on our current operating balance and debt payment for the water plant. 2017 has the last rate increase of 3% that was adopted by Council. After we know the annual operating costs of the new plant and the estimated revenue after the 2017 increase, we will re-visit this with Council later in 2017.

2) Staff is proposing an increase of Water Capacity charges for the portion of the charges which the City retains for those customers served by the Columbus Water System. Below are the proposed changes in bold print, as well as a comparison of the charges for the Groveport Water System:

Size of Water Tap	Columbus Water System		Groveport Water System
	Current Charge	Proposed Charge	
3/4”	\$220	\$1,486	\$2,170
1”	395	2,331	3,900
1-1/2”	878	4,955	8,568
2”	1,570	7,927	15,400
3”	3,535	15,750	34,500
4”	6,280	25,126	47,775
6”	14,120	50,080	108,529
8”	25,100	80,249	191,100
10”	39,220	112,285	297,670
12”	-----	217,285	428,749
16”	-----	233,351	477,749

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Capacity charges are only required when either an undeveloped property requires new water and sewer service or when the size of a current tap has to be increased (the difference in size is what is charged). This revenue is not used for operations; rather for system improvements. As the Columbus system ages it is imperative that we have adequate funds for these improvements.

Proposed Changes to Park Rules

Currently, parking restrictions in parks are included in Section 351.15 of the Codified Ordinances. This legislation moves parking restrictions to the Park Rules located in Section 941.03 as well as provides more definition as to where parking is to occur.

Miscellaneous

Motts Museum Fundraiser

I have all of the tickets and information for the May 6 event. I will provide it to you at tonight's meeting.

Meetings; Events

Meetings Attended:

04/18 Preservation Committee mtg.
04/19 Mtg re. golf course appropriations
04/21 Conf. call re. 2016 Franklin County Mosquito contract

Upcoming Meetings:

04/29 Arbor Day events
05/02 Mtg. re. website
05/06 MORPC Annual Luncheon
05/06 Motts Zoo Event