

## Fairfield City Council Ways and Means Committee Meeting

March 16, 2015, 7:00 p.m.

In attendance: Jessica Ledger-Kalen, Daryn Hamilton, John Revolinski, Mayor Ed Malloy, City Administrator Mike Harmon

### Fee Rate Increases

Fire Chief Scott Vaughn presented suggestions for increasing fees for city licenses. After discussion, the following new fees were recommended:

	Current	Proposed
Rental Housing Inspection		
First Unit	\$40	\$80
Additional Units	10	50
Re-inspections (each)	15	15
No-show fees	25	50

It was suggested that landlords be required to acknowledge the appointment for upcoming inspection before the time of the appointment. Failure to acknowledge will incur a no-show fee.

Planning and Zoning/Board of Adjustment Meeting Fees	\$50	\$150
Home occupation Annual Fee	\$10	\$50
Mobil Home Spaces	\$1	\$12
Lodging Houses (First Unit)	\$20	\$80
Each Additional Unit	\$10, 15, 5	\$30

### LOST Referendum

The discussion isolated some issues that require more consideration before a recommendation can be made:

If we present to the electorate a 10-year LOST proposal as we have in all past lost referendums, will be de-couple LOST from street improvements after the 4.5 years when our current street bonds are paid off?

What will be the impact on sewer rates if the Sewer Department no longer receives 25% of LOST revenue for the 4 ½ years left in the current LOST agreement? Did the current sewer rate study for presume that LOST revenue would be indefinitely be allocated to sewers?

### **Ongoing Civic Center Maintenance**

Jessica presented notes from her review of our 20-year lease agreement with the Civic Center and the committee agreed the City should plan to address ongoing maintenance needs of the facility. The issue the committee addressed was how to pay for those expenses. Information required for this decision includes:

- Determining if the entire 12.5% of LOST, allocated 5.5 years ago to service debt on the facility for 10 years, was used for bond payments, or if there is an amount left over that could be used to cover maintenance expenses.
- Examining the Hotel/Motel tax revenues
- Charging rent to the Visitor's Bureau for use of the facility.

It was suggested that the City Administrator oversee any such maintenance on behalf of the city.

### **City Financial Policy**

City Administrator Mike Harmon is compiling a draft policy manual for our consideration based on policies of other Iowa cities.