



AGENDA MEMORANDUM

First Reading for the City Council Meeting of July 21, 2020
Second Reading for the City Council Meeting of July 28, 2020

DATE: June 9, 2020
TO: Peter Zanoni, City Manager
FROM: Robert Rocha, Fire Chief
RRocha@cctexas.com
361-826-3932

Amending Ordinance for Fire Prevention Fees

CAPTION:

Ordinance amending the Fire Prevention Permit Fee Schedule of the Corpus Christi Code of Ordinances that will add nine additional fees that were previously collected by a third-party consultant

SUMMARY:

This ordinance amendment will authorize the removal of the \$250 Plans Review fee and will include nine additional fees that were previously collected by a third-party contractor. The contractor will no longer conduct Fire Protection Engineer (FPE) services for the City. The City's recently hired Fire Protection Engineer will now conduct services as required by the international fire code and state and local codes and ordinances and therefore the City will collect the additional fees.

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:

The City of Corpus Christi in year's past charged a one-time \$250 plans review fee. In recent times, the City utilized a third-party FPE to asses and collect fees for the following permits: special suppression systems, sprinkler systems, fire alarm systems, fire lane markings, fire pumps or standpipes and re-review fees. The third-party consultant will no longer conduct FPE services on behalf of the City. This ordinance amendment will authorize the removal of the one-time \$250 Plans Review fee in the ordinance and will include the nine fees that were previously collected by the third-party FPE. The nine fees added to the Fire Prevention permit fee schedule are the same fees that the third-party FRP charged. Permits are required by the international fire code and state and local codes and ordinances. The permits ensure that there is adequate sprinkler and fire alarm coverage and to ensure that the standpipe systems and fire pumps are providing adequate fire protection to the occupancy in line with fire code requirements. The fees are as follows:

Special Suppression Systems	\$300 per review
Plans Review- Sprinkler (up to 20 heads)	\$300 per review
Plans Review- Sprinkler (21+ heads)	\$550 per review
Plans Review- Fire Alarm (up to 20 devices)	\$300 per review
Plans Review- Fire Alarm (26-200 devices)	\$550 per review
Plans Review- Fire Alarm (201+ devices)	\$550 flat fee + \$1 each additional

	device over 200 per review
Plans Review- Fire Line	\$250 per review
Plans Review- Standpipe or Fire Pump	\$250 per review
Re-Review Fee	½ of original review fee

Based on a 3-year average from the contractor's fees, the inclusion of the new fees is estimated to bring in about \$106,105 in revenue. The additional fees will be utilized to fund the salary of the Fire Protection Engineer. The Fire Protection Engineer will start providing these services for the City starting July 20, 2020.

In FY2020 the City Council approved the hire of the Fire Protection Engineer position in the Fire Prevention Division of the Fire Department. By bringing the Fire Protection Engineer within the Fire Department, the City will no longer require the services provided by the third-party Fire Protection Engineer and thus can charge the fees listed above internally.

ALTERNATIVES:

The alternative to approving the fee adjustment would be to reject the fee adjustment to the Fire Prevention fee schedule. This would cause the Fire Department to become short of the salary for the Fire Protection Engineer.

However, the approval of the fee adjustment will ensure the salary for the Fire Protection Engineer.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The fiscal impact for FY2021 will be an estimated revenue of \$106,150.

Funding Detail:

Fund: 1020 General Fund
 Organization/Activity: 12020 Fire Prevention
 Mission Element: 888 Revenue
 Project # (CIP Only):
 Account: 308900 Fire Prevention Permit Fees

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that City Council approve the fee adjustment to the Fire Prevention Permit fee schedule.

LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

Ordinance