
REQUESTED COUNCIL MEETING DATE: NOVEMBER 2, 2015

ITEM: COUNCIL BILL No. 2015-533

ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT: FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Department Head: Leslie Haase

Director of Parks: Scott Garrie

City Attorney: Peter Edwards

City Manager: Sam Anselm

INTRODUCTION:

This Council Bill changes certain existing fees for cemeteries.

DISCUSSION:

The City recently completed the bi-annual user fee review, which was discussed with City Council at the budget work session on September 16, 2015. User fees are fees for services for specific users. User fees should recover most of the related cost of providing the service, so general taxes are not supporting services for specific users. Under Hancock provisions, the City is only allowed to recover the cost of providing the service.

The last major change to the cemeteries fee ordinance was in 2008. As detailed in the bi-annual user fee review, certain user fees need to be increased to recover more of the costs associated with providing these services.

The proposed changes are as follows:

- Increase the lot space fee from \$400.00 to \$500.00.
- Increase the grave opening/close fee from \$260.00 to \$400.00.
- Increase the grave opening/close infant fee from \$60.00 to \$100.00.
- Increase the graver marker fee per square inch from \$0.30 to \$0.35.
- Increase the cremains fee from \$85.00 to \$125.00.
- Increase the cremains with set-up fee from \$145.00 to \$200.00.
- Increase the Saturday grave opening/close fee from \$360.00 to \$500.00.
- Remove the language allowing fee increases based on the consumer price index to the standard language that fees will be reviewed by City Council on a bi-annual basis.

The fee changes will be effective on January 1, 2016.

RECOMMENDATION:

City Staff recommends this Council Bill be approved on first reading.