




**CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE  
City Commission Agenda Memo  
REGULAR MEETING**

**#13-1105**

**TO:** Honorable Mayor & Members of the  
Fort Lauderdale City Commission

**FROM:** Lee Feldman, ICMA-CM, City Manager 

**DATE:** September 3, 2013

**TITLE:** Public Hearing – Water, Wastewater, and Stormwater Rates – Fiscal Year  
2014 (REVISED)

**Recommendation**

It is recommended that the City Commission adopt a Resolution to increase the water and wastewater user rate, tapping charges, sprinkler meter charges, private fire service protection charges, stormwater management program rates, and service availability charges by 5% for Fiscal Year 2013-2014 as described in Chapter 28 of the City's Code of Ordinances, Section 28-76, 28-141, 28-143, 28-144, 12-145 and 28-197.

**Background**

On September 18, 2012 the City Commission approved an Amendment to Chapter 28 of the City Code of Ordinances, to provide for an annual increase of 5% to the water and wastewater user rate, tapping charges, sprinkler meter charges, private fire service protection charges, stormwater management program rates, and service availability charges for the Fiscal Year 2014.

Provisions in the Ordinance that provide for customer rebates will remain and are qualified as follows: "By April 30<sup>th</sup> of each year, the City Manager shall determine as of September 30<sup>th</sup> of each year prior, whether projected revenues based on adjusted rates exceed the following five criteria:

1. Annual revenues exceed annual expenses
2. Net revenue is at or above 2.0 times annual debt service expenses
3. There is an operating reserve of at least equal to 120 days of operating costs
4. There is an unrestricted capital reserve of at least \$10 million
5. There is a replacement and repair fund of at least \$10 million

If there is projected revenue that exceeds these five criteria, the current customers shall receive a proportionate rebate of the excess funds on their water/wastewater bill in the same fiscal year."

The 5% rate increase is needed to pay for normal annual increases in the cost of providing services such as increases in wages, required pension contributions, and increases in the costs of contracted services. ~~The impact of the proposed rate increase on a residential customer using 5,000 gallons of water per month amounts to a \$2.47 increase.~~

**Resource Impact**

The impact of the proposed rate increase for a residential customer using 5,000 gallons of water per month amounts to a \$0.92 increase. The impact of the proposed rate increase for a residential customer using 5,000 gallons of wastewater per month amounts to a \$1.47 increase. The impact of the proposed rate increase for a residential customer for Stormwater amounts to a \$0.19 increase. in-water and \$1.55 for sewer for a total increase of \$2.47.

FISCAL YEAR	FUND	SUBFUND	INDEX #	INDEX NAME	SUBJECT #	SUBJECT NAME	AMOUNT
2014	450	1	PBS010501	Finance Service Support	J276	Water Sales	\$ 2,770,893.00
2014	450	1	PBS010501	Finance Service Support	J280	Sewer Service Charge	\$ 2,837,782.00
2014	470	1	PBS660502	Stormwater	J326	Stormwater Fees	\$96,074

Attachment: Exhibit 1 – Resolution

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