



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
City Commission Agenda Memo
REGULAR MEETING

#17-0417

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

FROM: Lee R. Feldman, ICMA-CM, City Manager

DATE: April 4, 2017

TITLE: Ordinance Creating Section 28-174, Code of Ordinances of the City of
Fort Lauderdale, Authorizing the City Manager or the City Manager's
Designee to Grant a One-Time Billing Adjustment for Unexplained Water
Consumption on an Account with Water, Wastewater, or Sprinkling
Service

Recommendation

It is recommended that the City Commission adopt an ordinance creating Section 28-174, Code of Ordinances of the City of Fort Lauderdale, authorizing the City Manager or the City Manager's designee to grant a one-time billing adjustment for unexplained water consumption on an account with water, wastewater, or sprinkling service.

Background

The proposed ordinance amendment, Section 28-174, Code of Ordinances of the City of Fort Lauderdale, authorizes the City Manager or City Manager's designee to grant a one-time billing adjustment to an account holder (customer) who does not qualify for relief under Section 28-173. An account that experiences unexplained water consumption will undergo an eligibility assessment which could result in a billing adjustment. Unexplained circumstances include situations in which a customer's bill exceeds the prior twelve month average usage and is not attributable to a leak, concealed or visible, and high consumption cannot otherwise be explained.

In addition to the assessment, the account must be current and in good standing. Good standing, for purpose of this section, means that the account is not delinquent as of the billing period immediately preceding the billing period for which the one-time billing adjustment is requested. Once eligibility has been established, an unexplained high bill may be adjusted by averaging the prior twelve-months' usage and applying a credit of one-half over the prior twelve-month average usage.

Resource Impact

The assessment will be done on a case-by-case basis; the adjustment will apply only to accounts that are currently not eligible for relief under Section 28-173.

Subsequently, the Water and Sewer Fund will be debited, with each adjustment for half over the prior twelve month average consumption on water, wastewater and sprinkler accounts. The estimated amount will be charged against revenue as a statement credit from the account listed below.

<i>Funds available as of March 21, 2017</i>					
ACCOUNT NUMBER	INDEX NAME (Program)	OBJECT CODE/ SUB-OBJECT NAME	AMENDED BUDGET (Character)	AMOUNT RECEIVED (Character)	AMOUNT
450.PBS010501.J276	FINANCE SERVICES SUPPORT	WATER SALES/CHARGES FOR SERVICE	\$107,567,858	\$51,492,711	(\$25,000)
450.PBS010501.J280	FINANCE SERVICES SUPPORT	SEWER SERVICE CHAR/CHARGES FOR SERVICE	\$107,567,858	\$51,492,711	(\$50,000)
TOTAL ►					(\$75,000)

Strategic Connections

This item is a *Press Play Fort Lauderdale Strategic Plan 2018* initiative, included within the Internal Support Cylinder of Excellence, specifically advancing:

- Goal 12: Be a leading government organization, managing resources wisely and sustainably.
- Objective 2: Routinely examine and improve procurement and payment processes.

This item also furthers the *Fast Forward Fort Lauderdale 2035 Vision Plan: We are United*.

Attachment

Exhibit 1 – Ordinance – 2nd Reading

Prepared by: Arnette Torrence, Finance
Linda Blanco, Finance

Department Director: Kirk W. Buffington, Finance