



MEMORANDUM

Council Agenda
Item No. XI. X
5/21/2024

The City of OKLAHOMA CITY

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Craig Freeman, City Manager

Ordinance on final hearing, relating to the General Schedule of Fees, amending Chapter 60 of the Oklahoma City Municipal Code, 2020, amending Title – 33 – Municipal Court, Article III – Court Procedure, by amending Section 60-33-11 - Court costs; amending Article IV – Court Operations Division, by enacting Section 60-33-16 - Fees for Oklahoma City Municipal Courthouse Attorney proximity card; and amending Article VI – Return of Property Hearings, by repealing Section 60-33-26 - Notice and publication fees; and providing for an effective date.

Purpose:

The purpose of the ordinance amendment is to update fees for City services that were reviewed during the City-wide fee study. Fee increases are proposed that would better recover costs associated with delivery of those services.

Background:

Fees and charges for services provided by the City are set by ordinance. The City periodically reviews these fees to ensure that they are reasonably tied to the actual cost of service delivery. On August 17, 2021 (Item No. IX. AN), the City Council approved a contract with MGT of America Consulting LLC to provide a Citywide fee study. The scope of the project was to review user fees and charges for services provided to residents and recommend a fee that would provide full cost recovery.

MGT and City staff collaborated to review hundreds of fees with the consultant completing its report in early Fiscal Year 2024. MGT found that across City functions, the fees charged were recovering between 7% and 87% of costs; based on Fiscal Year 2022 data. This disparity between actual costs and fee revenue represents an approximate \$21 million-dollar gap between service costs and fee revenue in the general fund. This figure was expected, as it had been over a decade since a prior fee study was completed. Personal Services growth (salaries and benefits) have grown at about 3.6% annually during that same period.

City departments then evaluated recommended adjustments for reasonableness, consistency with similar services, and impact to city residents. In many cases, an amount less than full recovery is proposed.

The Municipal Counselor's Office has prepared the attached Ordinance to implement the recommended adjustments to several Municipal Court fees and court costs effective July 1, 2024.

Estimated Revenue:
\$415,130

Collections Account:
Various Accounts

Review:
Municipal Court

Recommendation: Ordinance be adopted.