City of Joplin City Council Agenda Item

REQUESTED COUNCIL MEETING DATE: DECEMBER 4, 2017

ITEM: COUNCIL BILL NO. 2017-529
ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT: FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Department Head: Leslie Haase
Director of Public Works: David Hertzberg
City Attorney: Peter Edwards
City Manager: Sam Anselm

INTRODUCTION:
This Council Bill changes certain existing fees in the engineering department.

DISCUSSION:
The City recently completed the biennial user fee review, which was discussed with City Council at the budget work session on September 6, 2017. 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. As detailed in the biennial user fee review, certain fees need to be increased, while new fees have been recommended, to recover more of the costs associated with providing these services by the engineering department.

Commercial building projects within the City require a storm water, sanitary sewer and traffic plan review performed by the engineering department. Currently, the City does not assess any plan review fee for this service. The recommendation is to add a plan review fee that mirrors the building and fire plan review fee provisions. Additionally, engineering performs storm water, sanitary sewer, and traffic plan review for residential subdivisions. The recommendation is to add a residential subdivision plan review fee that mirrors the planning department plan review fee provisions. In preparation of adding these new fees, Public Works held multiple meetings with the Tri-State Contractors and the Home Builders Association to discuss the new fees over the last several months. A letter about the proposed fee changes from HBA is attached for review.

In the fee review, staff proposed various changes to the engineering department fees.

The proposed changes are as follows:

- Change the driveway permit fee from $25.00 to $50.00 for residential and $100.00 for commercial
- Change the sidewalk permit fee from $25.00 to $50.00 for residential and $100.00 for commercial

- Change the curb & gutter fee from $25.00 to $50.00 for residential and $100.00 for commercial
- Change the special event fee from $100.00 to $150.00
- Change the road closure fee from $50.00 to $75.00
- Establish a new commercial engineering plan review fee calculated at .001 times the construction value
- Establish a new engineering residential subdivision plan review set at $100.00, plus $10.00 for each lot
- Change the excavation permit fee from $75.00 to $100.00

The fee change will be effective on February 1, 2018.

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