



Meeting: Village Board
Meeting Date: 11/26/2012
Agenda Item: 5c

Mission Statement

Delivering quality services in a courteous, cost-effective and efficient manner

VILLAGE BOARD MEETING STAFF REPORT

REPORT TO: Burt R. McIntyre, President, and Village Board of Trustees
REPORT FROM: Paul Evert, Village Administrator
AGENDA ITEM: Resolution No. 2012-24 Regarding the Fire Protection Charge

POLICY ISSUE

Does the Village Board desire to approve Resolution 2012-24 regarding shifting \$87,000 of the fire protection charges from the General Fund to direct billing and adding all non-water customers to direct billing?

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Staff recommends the village board approve the resolution regarding the public fire protection charge and the following motion could be made:

"I move to approve Resolution 2012-24 shifting \$87,000 of fire protection charges to direct billing and adding all non-water customers to direct billing."

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The proposed 2013 budget includes shifting \$87,000 of the public fire protection fee from the General Fund to direct billing of parcels in Howard. This shift will include all parcels into the direct billing to allow every property owner to continue to pay for public fire protection. (Please note that many of the annual fires occurring in Howard are for brush fires in the rural areas of Howard.)

During the November 12, 2012 budget workshop, the board discussed and gave staff approval of shifting \$87,000 of the General Fund charges for fire protection to direct billing of customers. The board also approved adding the non-water customers to the direct billing process. The final step is for the board to approve the attached resolution that will be sent to the Public Service Commission (PSC) of Wisconsin. The PSC has been notified of the board's decision to shift these funds and has begun the process of changing the direct billing rates. The PSC hopes to have the new rates adopted at the end of December to allow for billings to begin in January 2013.

ATTACHMENTS

- i. Resolution 2012-24 Regarding the Fire Protection Charge

The Village of Howard, Wisconsin

IN THE NAME AND BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE VILLAGE OF HOWARD, WISCONSIN

Resolution 2012-24

“A Resolution requesting the Public Service Commission place \$525,000 of the 2013 Public Fire Protection charge as a direct charge to both utility and non-utility customers using the equivalent meter method”

WHEREAS, the Village of Howard total Public Fire Protection Charge is \$855,000 of which \$397,000 is paid through the general property tax levy; and

WHEREAS, \$438,000 of the Public Fire Protection charge is placed on the water utility bills as a direct charge to all users; and

WHEREAS, the Village Board desires to shift an additional \$87,000 from the general fund tax levy for Public Fire Protection as a direct charge; and

WHEREAS, the Village Board finds it is more equitable to charge both water utility and non-municipal customers that own land in the Village as provided in sec. 196.03(3)(b)2 for the entire amount not paid through the general tax levy; and

WHEREAS, the Village Board desires to use the equivalent meter method.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Village Board does hereby request the Public Service Commission place \$525,000 of the 2013 Public Fire Protection charge as a direct charge to both utility and non-utility customers using the equivalent meter method.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Village staff are authorized to work with the Public Service Commission to implement this request.

IN THE TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have here unto subscribed my name on this 26th day of November, 2012.

Burt R. McIntyre, Village President

Christopher A. Haltom, Village Clerk