

presented w/ Ord 98-39 (Amended)
9/14/98
FV

WASILLA CITY COUNCIL INFORMATION MEMORANDUM

IM 98-83

SUBJECT: ADDITION OF FACILITIES CHARGE TO WATER RATES

REQUESTED BY: PUBLIC WORKS/FINANCE

PREPARED BY: FINANCE

DATE: AUGUST 7, 1998

FOR AGENDA OF: AUGUST 24, 1998

SUMMARY:

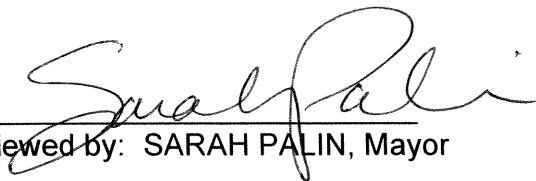
Ordinance 98-39 repeals and re-enacts the existing water rates. It also adds a facilities charge section to handle payment of off-site charges and improvements installed by the city that benefit individual lots, which are usually handled by assessments. This situation occurs when the City of Wasilla purchases an existing water system and a method of recouping off-site assessments required by Section 5.10.020 of the Wasilla Municipal Code, and other charges, is needed.

The ordinance allows current users, at the time of transfer, to pay the above charges through a monthly facilities charge. Lot owners of unimproved lots will be required to pay their off-site assessments and other charges at the time of hookup to the City of Wasilla Water System.

FISCAL IMPACT: ___ No ___ X Yes amount requested: \$ 140,991 Fund: Water Utility Capital Investment & off-site assessments to be recovered from property owners.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Introduction of Ordinance Serial No. 98-39.

MAYOR REVIEW/COMMENT:



Reviewed by: SARAH PALIN, Mayor

CLERKS OFFICE

SEP 02 1998
RECEIVED

P. O. Box 870163
Wasilla, AK 99687-0163

August 22, 1998

Check copy

Dear City Council Member;

I object to the amount of the per month facility charge proposed in Ordinance 98-39. This is not consistent with the terms described in the documents which accompanied the LID ballots sent to Century Park Subdivision property owners this past June.

Ordinance 98-39 needs to be amended to change the proposed monthly facility charge from \$12 to \$11.45 (or less).

It is not fair to ask the public to choose between 2 options--options the City designed to suit its purposes--and then, after the public has chosen, to change the terms of the option the public has selected.

The property owners of Century Park Subdivision voted in good faith. We expected to be bound by the outcome of the LID vote. We had no reason to believe that the City was not also acting in good faith and/or would not also be bound by the outcome of the vote.

I strongly believe that the City should be bound by the outcome of the LID vote to the terms of the non-LID option as it was described in the documents sent by certified mail to each Century Park Subdivision property owner with their LID ballot:

"...the water off-site costs will become payable as a surcharge on monthly service (metered use + \$11.45) until the assessment is paid in full. On-site sewer costs and on-site water costs (on lots without current service) will be payable at the time service is initiated." IM 98-63

I do not know what is legal--that will be up to the City's attorney, the property owners' attorney, the Attorney General (who may be called into this by the APUC) and/or the courts to decide. But I do know what is fair: honoring your word. You offered us a choice; you need to keep to your side of the deal and honor your word: amend Ordinance 98-39 to \$11.45. It's only fair.

Sincerely,

Anne Kilkeny

Anne Kilkeny
1131 Century Drive
lot 15, Block 1 Century Park