

Request For City Council Action

Date: February 10, 2015

Agenda Section: General Business No. 6	Originating Department: City Manager's Office
Item: Request from Tow Companies for Review of Fee Schedule for Nonconsensual Towing of Vehicles No. 6.1	Approved:

Background:

In 1997, the City Council adopted an ordinance that initiated the City's regulation of the nonconsensual towing of vehicles within the City limits. Nonconsensual towing is defined as the towing or removal of any vehicle from private property without the consent of the owner or operator of the vehicle. The regulations contained in Title Five (5), Chapter Thirteen (13) of the Carbondale Revised Code do not pertain to the towing of vehicles from public right of way or from City of Carbondale controlled property. In 2005, the fees associated with nonconsensual tows and storage were reviewed by the City Council and increases were made in certain areas as noted below. Revisions have not been made to the fee schedule for nonconsensual towing since 2005.

Service Description	1997-2004 Fees	2005 Fees to Present
Towing from tow truck (any vehicle size)	55.00	65.00
Use of dolly	0.00	10.00
Use of Winch	0.00	10.00
Outside storage (after 24 hours)	10.00	10.00
Inside storage (after 24 hours)	10.00	10.00
After hours release of vehicle	0.00	0.00
Interrupted tow	20.00	25.00
Excessive work or waiting	0.00	0.00
Service Fee	0.00	0.00
Mileage (in or outside City limits)	0.00	0.00

Representatives from the towing companies located in Carbondale have requested the City Council review the current fees and consider increases in certain areas. Staff have contacted other communities within the area and found that very few communities, if any, regulate the rates for nonconsensual tows.

Recommended Action:

City staff recommends the City Council hear the request of the tow companies, review the existing fees, and direct staff to make any appropriate changes. An ordinance will be prepared and brought back for consideration at the March 3, 2015 City Council meeting.

Engineering Approval Obtained	Finance Approval Obtained	Legal Approval Obtained	Approval Obtained	Manager's Approval Obtained
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Council Action: Motion by _____ 2nd by _____ to _____