

COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

From: The City Manager

Subject: Amendment to Rubbish Ordinance

Manager's Recommendation:

I recommend Subsection C, of Section 50.09 "Fees." of Chapter 50 "Solid Waste" of Title V, "Public Works", of the City of Saginaw Code of Ordinances, O-1, be amended to change the lien procedure. An ordinance has been prepared and appears under the regular order of business.

Justification:

The current ordinance provides for annual billing of the solid waste fee for that portion over and above the three mills levied. If that separate fee is not paid within 30 days, a 10% late charge is added and the charge is processed pursuant to the single lot assessment procedure. Each delinquent property owner is sent a separate notice and provided an opportunity for a hearing before City Council. There are a large number of such delinquent accounts and the notification process is expensive and largely unproductive. There are rarely any disputes.

The proposed ordinance would treat these rubbish bills in a similar manner to unpaid water and sewer bills. After they are delinquent for six months, they are automatically added to the tax rolls as a lien. The requirements for formal notification and hearing as single lot assessments are eliminated.

Council Action:

This Council Communication is being submitted to explain the ordinance to be introduced in a subsequent portion of the agenda.