

City of Caldwell, Idaho
Street Lighting Fees and Policies

RESOLUTION NO. 317-24

WHEREAS, the City Council approved Ordinance No. 1945 on May 4, 1992 establishing a street lighting policy and providing for the setting of fees by Resolution of City Council:

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the street lighting policy and fees set forth below are hereby adopted by the City Council of the City of Caldwell, Idaho. The street light fee structure shall consist of three rate classes defined as follows:

- 1) **Low Benefit Rate:** This rate class is restricted to Improved Real Property where the nearest street light is greater than 500 feet from the property.
- 2) **Medium Benefit Rate:** This rate class includes all Improved Real Property which is located within 500 feet of a street light and not included in the high benefit class.
- 3) **High Benefit Rate:** This rate class includes Improved Real Property which is located within 500 feet of a street light and which in the opinion of the City has a higher than average benefit from street lights. This class includes the following:
 - a. Commercial accounts located within the downtown core area (as defined by a map adopted by the Council).
 - b. Commercial accounts located out of the downtown core area but which have a road frontage greater than 75 feet. A commercial account also includes industrial and multiple family residential developments (apartment complex, combined meter mobile home parks, multi-residential units greater than a triplex).

The rates for these three classes shall be as follows:

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| 1. | Low Benefit Rate: | \$0.85/month |
| 2. | Medium Benefit Rate: | \$3.41/month |
| 3. | High Benefit Rate: | \$6.80/month |

Improved Real Property is defined as property which has City Water, Sewer or Garbage Service. Commercial accounts are properties meeting the definition of non-residential accounts for sewer billing purposes.

New Construction: In all developments where street lighting is a condition of development and where public streets are involved, the lights provided shall conform to the recommended height standards of Idaho Power Company and the City of Caldwell Specifications. The light-emitting-diode (LED), driver, and light-sensing switch must also conform City of Caldwell Specifications (Caldwell Supplemental Specification to the Idaho Standards for Public Works Construction) and to Idaho Power

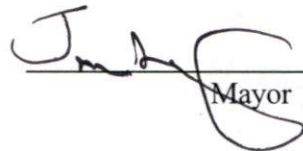
Company Standards. A junction box shall be located within five (5) feet of the street light pole and the line from the power supply up to, and including, the junction box shall be installed by Idaho Power except as otherwise approved by the City Engineer. Spacing between street lights shall generally not exceed 350 feet. Lighting meeting said standards, and located in public right-of-way, shall be acceptable for dedication to the City.

Illicit Connections Prohibited: Connections to streetlights for any purpose including, but not limited to powering sprinkler timers, Christmas lights, sign lighting, or for any other purpose is prohibited unless authorized in writing by the City Engineer and Public Works Director.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all fees contained herein shall be effective October 1, 2024, and all similar fees established by earlier resolution are hereby repealed.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL of the City of Caldwell, this 7th day of October, 2024.

APPROVED BY THE MAYOR of the City of Caldwell, this 7th day of October, 2024.



Mayor

ATTEST:



City Clerk



MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor Wagoner and Members of Council
From: Robb MacDonald, PE, Public Works Director
Ashley Newbry, PE, Deputy Public Works Director
Bruce Mills, PE, Deputy Public Works Director
Hallie Hart, PE, City Engineer
Re: Sewer, Water, Street Light, Mapping, Building, Sanitation, and Engineering Fees
Date: October 7, 2024

The proposed Fiscal Year 2025 budget includes cost increases in the Sewer, Water, Streetlight, and Sanitation funds as well as the Engineering, Mapping, and Building Departments. **These fees are effective retroactively starting October 1st, 2024.** Irrigation fees will be adjusted soon with a January effective date, consistent with Idaho Code. A brief explanation of each fee change follows:

1. **Sewer Use and Connection Fees** - The proposed resolution modifies the present fee structure and includes an effective 4.9% increase in user fees and connection fees. The monthly cost to the average residential user (the average water use per household in Caldwell is assumed to be 800 cubic feet/month) will increase from \$49.86 to \$52.33 per month. Septic receiving fees are not proposed for an increase this year. In fiscal year 2025, it is anticipated that an objective rate study analysis will be conducted by a third-party consultant to recommend fee rates for the 2026 fiscal year.
2. **Water Use and Connection Fees** - This resolution makes and formalizes Public Works Policies related to Water Fees. While fee elements of the resolution become effective October 1st, any policy modifications are effective immediately upon passage. The monthly cost to the average residential user (the average water use per household in Caldwell is assumed to be 800 cubic feet/month) will increase from \$19.53 to \$26.20 per month. Connection fees for new water users are increased significantly based on the findings of the recently completed Water Facilities Plan, which demonstrates the existing connection fees to be much lower than appropriate for Caldwell's system (under Idaho Supreme Court Case Law – NIBCA vs. Hayden) where connection fees are intended to purchase a proportionate share of the system. The needed increase is substantial, and staff proposes that it be pursued over the course of several years. To begin that process, an **increase of 50%** was adopted in FY2024 and is planned to be repeated for the following 2 years, FY2025 and 2026. Note some variety in the percent increases proposed as a result of nearest dollar adjustments.
3. **Street Lighting Charges** - The proposed resolution maintains the present fee structure and enacts a 3.2% fee increase of for FY 2025. The monthly billing for the typical residence will increase from \$3.31 to \$3.41.
4. **Building Safety Fees** – Building Safety has not had any fee increases for about 10 years. Because of this deferred action, many fee increases have been recommended to support the needs of a growing community and be closer in line with the fees of the neighboring cities.
5. **Sanitation Fees** – Pursuant to the contract adopted by City Council on April 16th, 2024, the collection fees have been established and are set to match the change in the Consumer Price Index (the CPI) for All Urban Consumers (Garbage/Trash Collection Services) U.S. City Average, as published by the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Statistics. CPI adjustments shall be applied every April for the duration of the Contract.

6. **Engineering Fees** – The Right-of-way Permit policy has been changed to charge for the closure of alleys, parking stalls, and block closures for events. There is also a new violation fee added for offenders with 3 offenses. In addition, a new fee has been added for plan reviews that are on their 5th or more reviews. A pass-thru fee has been added for intersection design safety review when specialized analysis is required. Inspection fees for streetlights and final walk through has been added along with charging for additional final walk throughs in excess of 3 inspections.
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Those fees that are new or exceed 5% of the fee previously collected are subject to the notice and hearing procedures outlined in Idaho Code, Section 63-1311A. Hearings will be held on the date of consideration by the Council and have been noticed in accordance with Idaho Code.

The attached resolutions would modify the fee schedules as proposed with an October 1, 2024 effective date.