

City Council Agenda Memo

From: Jacob Meshke, Assistant City Manager

Council Meeting: May 26, 2020

Subject: Adopting Electric Vehicle Charging Station Rates

Person(s) Responsible: Jacob Meshke, Assistant City Manager

Summary:

This resolution will update the Consolidated Fee Schedule to set electric vehicle charging station rates. Electric vehicle charging station rates are proposed to be \$1 per hour for the first three (3) hours, \$2 per hour for any time over three (3) hours, and fee exempt for use by the City of Brookings and Brookings County.

Background:

The City of Brookings charges fees to offset operational expenses and ensure the financial sustainability of programs and services.

Staff aggregated all City fees into the Consolidated Fee Schedule which was adopted by City Council as part of the 2020 Budget process. From time to time, the Consolidated Fee Schedule will be revisited and updated to ensure City fees are up-to-date and align with current markets.

Obtaining an electric vehicle charging station at the City and County Government Center is a shared goal for the City of Brookings and Brookings County. A component of operating an electric vehicle charging station is to set hourly rates for use.

Item Details:

The City of Brookings has entered into a three-year lease with ChargePoint for an electric vehicle charging station at an annual rate of \$2,750. The lease amount will be paid out of the City/County Government Center budget, which is split between the City of Brookings and Brookings County. The charging unit has two (2) ports and can charge two (2) vehicles at once.

Under the lease agreement, ChargePoint is responsible for the installation, monitoring, and maintenance of the electric charging unit. A lease arrangement was chosen because electric vehicle charging unit technology is rapidly changing and the units become outdated relatively quickly. Additionally, the City will receive a \$3,000 rebate from Missouri River Energy Services for participating in the lease program, which can be used towards the site preparation expenses and first year of the lease.

The City has received a recommendation to charge a fee for electric vehicle charging to set the precedent this is a fee-based service and deter individuals from overtly taking advantage and using the City's electricity. The City of Vermillion charges \$1.70 per hour for electric vehicle charging, which is the same rate ChargePoint charges at their headquarters.

Staff is proposing a gradually increasing rate of \$1 per hour for the first three (3) hours and \$2 per hour for any charging time over three (3) hours. ChargePoint has provided the unit will charge most electric vehicles in four (4) hours or less. This would provide a cost of \$5 for an electric car owner to fully charge their electric vehicle. By comparison, it would cost an electric car owner \$6.80 to fully charge their electric vehicle in Vermillion. Further, it is proposed the City of Brookings and Brookings County would be exempt from fees if either entity was to obtain an electric or hybrid vehicle in the future for operational use.

Legal Consideration:

None.

Strategic Plan Consideration:

Installing an electric vehicle charging station accomplishes an initiative of the Sustainability Council and furthers the City's vision of embracing sustainability.

Financial Consideration:

Annual revenue of \$100 is estimated to be received from the electric vehicle charging station. The lease for the charging unit is \$2,750 with a three (3) year duration.

Options and Recommendation:

The City Council has the following options:

1. Approve as presented
2. Deny
3. Refer to a study session
4. Do nothing

Staff recommends approval of the resolution as presented.

Supporting Documentation:

Resolution

Consolidated Fee Schedule