

The first reading of an ordinance that will create a Storm Water Management Program took place during last night's Glasgow City Council Meeting. The program will operate out of its own fund with revenues derived from use fee billing. The program is in response to an unfunded federal mandate of the Environmental Protection Agency. Councilman Wendell Honeycutt had this to say about the issue...

{audio}<http://wcluradio.com/newscuts/1127honeycutt.mp3>{/audio}

The first cycle of billing for the fees that will fund Storm Water Management will begin April 1, 2013. The fees will be assessed based on the type of property. Each Residential Property will be sent a bill in the amount of \$24 per year. Schools and Churches will be billed \$180 per year. Commercial Property less than 50,000 square feet will be billed \$240 per year. Commercial property greater than 50,000 but less than 100,000 square feet will be billed \$420 per year. The maximum commercial fee would be \$780 per year, which is for square footage totaling over 1 million. So, the average household will essentially pay \$2 per month into the Storm Water Management Fund.

Storm Water Manager April Russell estimates revenues of just under \$500,000 per year to operate the program with projects such as engineering and design, monitoring, surveillance, inspection, billing, and other activities required to reduce the amount of pollutants that drain into the sewer system. Russell added that no additional employees would be hired as a result of the new Storm Water Management Fund.

{audio}http://wcluradio.com/newscuts/1127russell.mp3{/audio}

Mayor Rhonda Trautman tells WCLU News that this will be a separate division of Public Works as well as more details on Russell's position and others.

{audio}http://wcluradio.com/newscuts/1127trautman.mp3{/audio}

The Council went into closed session last night to discuss the acquisition of property. When the council returned to open session, the council voted, on first reading, to purchase the property at 118 North Green Street owned by Sydney Williams. Mayor Trautman said the property will be used to add 48 new parking spaces to the adjacent Plaza Theatre. Due to the timeliness of this ordinance and two others, a special-called meeting will be held today at 8:00am in the council chambers to vote on the second reading of the property purchase ordinance as well as an ordinance relating to the airport property, and an ordinance regarding the issuance of bonds to refinance debt acquired by the Glasgow Water Company.

Glasgow Water Company Superintendent Scott Young says the lower interest rates will save the city over \$400,000.

Another highlight of last night's council meeting was the recognition and resolution honoring the Glasgow Scottie Band for their recent Class two-A State Championship