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City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: MAY 25, 2010

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

FROM: JAMES K. HARTMANN, CITY MANAGER *J*

SUBJECT: ORDINANCE TO INCREASE TOWING, IMPOUND SERVICE CHARGE,
AND IMPOUND LOT STORAGE FEES

ISSUE: Consideration of a proposed ordinance to increase the towing charge, impound service charge, and the impound lot storage fees.

RECOMMENDATION: That City Council pass the proposed ordinance to increase towing charges, impound service charges, and the impound lot storage fees on first reading, and set it for public hearing, second reading and final passage on Saturday, June 12.

DISCUSSION: The proposed ordinance increases towing fees and charges for motor vehicles impounded by the City. Currently, the towing fee is \$100, the impound service charge is \$70, and the impound storage charge is \$30 per day. The FY 2011 adopted budget reflects the proposed new rates of a towing fee of \$125, an \$80 impound service charge, and \$40 per day for impound storage fee. These fee increases will assist offsetting the direct and indirect cost associated with the impound lot operations.

FISCAL IMPACT: The increase of the towing charge, impound service charge, and the impound storage fee will generate approximately \$75,925 in additional General Fund revenue annually.

ATTACHMENTS: Proposed Ordinance

STAFF:

Bruce Johnson, Chief Financial Officer
Morgan Routt, Assistant Director, OMB
Richard J. Baier, P.E., LEED AP, Director, T&ES
Abi Lerner, P.E., Deputy Director of Transp., T&ES
Bob Garbacz, P.E., Transportation Division Chief, T&ES
Antonio J. Baxter, Division Chief of Administration, T&ES

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| Introduction and first reading: | 6/8/10 |
| Public hearing: | 6/12/10 |
| Second reading and enactment: | 6/12/10 |

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED ORDINANCE

Title

AN ORDINANCE to amend and reordain Article C (DISPOSITION OF ABANDONED, UNATTENDED AND IMMOBILE MOTOR VEHICLES), Chapter 8 (PARKING AND TRAFFIC REGULATION), Title 5 (TRANSPORTATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES) of The Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1981, as amended.

Summary

The proposed ordinance sets the rate for towing charges, impound service charges and impound lot storage fees at the rate previously approved by City Council in the 2011 budget.

Sponsor

N/A

Staff

- Bruce Johnson, Chief Financial Officer
- Morgan Routt, Assistant Director, OMB
- Richard J. Baier, P.E., LEED AP, Director T&ES
- Abi Lerner, P.E., Deputy Director of Transportation, T&ES
- Bob Garbacz, P.E., Transportation Division Chief, T&ES
- Antonio Baxter, Division Chief of Administration, T&ES
- Christopher P. Spera, Deputy City Attorney

Authority

§2.04(g), Alexandria City Charter

Estimated Costs of Implementation

None

Attachments in Addition to Proposed Ordinance and its Attachments (if any)

None

ORDINANCE NO. _____

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AN ORDINANCE to amend and reordain Article C (DISPOSITION OF ABANDONED, UNATTENDED AND IMMOBILE MOTOR VEHICLES), Chapter 8 (PARKING AND TRAFFIC REGULATION), Title 5 (TRANSPORTATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES) of The Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1981, as amended.

THE CITY COUNCIL OF ALEXANDRIA HEREBY ORDAINS:

Section 1. That Article C, Chapter 8 of Title 9 of the Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1981, as amended, be, and the same hereby is, amended and reordained by the amendment of Sections 5-8-25 to read as follows:

(New language is underscored; deleted material is ~~stricken~~)

Sec. 5-8-25 Repossession of impounded vehicles; towing and storage charges.

(a) The owner of any vehicle impounded under this article, a person duly authorized by the owner and any person possessing a security interest in the vehicle shall be permitted to repossess the vehicle up to the time of its sale by:

- (1) payment of a towing charge of ~~\$100.00~~ \$125.00;
- (2) payment of a storage charge of ~~\$30.00~~ \$40.00 per day;
- (3) payment of a charge of ~~\$70.00~~ \$80.00 to cover the administrative costs incurred by the city in impounding the vehicle, in learning the identity of the vehicle owner and the holders of a security interest in the vehicle and in conducting the sale; and
- (4) in the case of vehicles identified in section 5-8-22(e), payment of the outstanding parking violation notices for which the vehicle was removed.

(b) Payment of the charges and costs identified in subsection (a) shall not operate to relieve the owner of the impounded vehicle or the owner's agent from liability for any fine or penalty.

Section 2. That this ordinance shall become effective July 1, 2010.

WILLIAM D. EUILLE
Mayor

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| Introduction: | 6/8/10 |
| First Reading: | 6/8/10 |
| Publication: | |
| Public Hearing: | |
| Second Reading: | |
| Final Passage: | |

ORDINANCE NO. 4672

AN ORDINANCE to amend and reordain Article C (DISPOSITION OF ABANDONED, UNATTENDED AND IMMOBILE MOTOR VEHICLES), Chapter 8 (PARKING AND TRAFFIC REGULATION), Title 5 (TRANSPORTATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES) of The Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1981, as amended.

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- (1) payment of a towing charge of \$125.00;
- (2) payment of a storage charge of \$40.00 per day;
- (3) payment of a charge of \$80.00 to cover the administrative costs incurred by the city in impounding the vehicle, in learning the identity of the vehicle owner and the holders of a security interest in the vehicle and in conducting the sale; and
- (4) in the case of vehicles identified in section 5-8-22(e), payment of the outstanding parking violation notices for which the vehicle was removed.

(b) Payment of the charges and costs identified in subsection (a) shall not operate to relieve the owner of the impounded vehicle or the owner's agent from liability for any fine or penalty.

Section 2. That this ordinance shall become effective July 1, 2010.

WILLIAM D. EUILLE
Mayor

Final Passage: June 12, 2010