



STAFF REPORT

CITY OF GREEN COVE SPRINGS, FLORIDA

TO: City Council Regular Session

MEETING DATE: February 16, 2021

FROM: Mike Null

SUBJECT: City Council discussion and direction on the installation of security lights for electric customers. *Mike Null, Andy Yeager*

BACKGROUND

For at least 20 years, the City has not been installing new security lights (night-lights) for electric customers. We receive several requests each year for the installation of these security lights. It is common for electric utilities to install security lights for their customers in exchange for a monthly fee.

The electric department staff has completed a cost analysis of re-starting the program. We would currently use an LED light that is more energy efficient and also has a 10 year warranty (and therefore a 10 year life expectancy). The electric usage portion of installing and maintaining the light is estimated at \$4.32 per month based on 12 hours per day usage. Installation with one lineman and one apprentice would take about an hour. With all of the costs included, the following fees are presented for Council discussion and direction:

- If we charged \$10 per month without any upfront fees it would take 43 months to start seeing a return on investment.
- If we charged \$15 per month without any upfront fees it would take 23 months to start seeing a return on investment.
- If we charged \$20 per month without any upfront fees it would take 14 months to start seeing a return on investment.

Following is our current section of City Code that addresses security lights:

Sec. 90-61. - Security and night-lights.

(a) The city shall charge such owner or tenant a fee as follows for existing security or night-lights.

The city will not install such lights or repair/replace parts other than light head, photo eye or lamp.

- (1) 175-watt mercury vapor light or 100-watt high-pressure sodium light monthly charge: \$10.25.
- (2) 400-watt mercury vapor light or 250-watt high-pressure sodium light monthly charge: \$20.00.
- (3) Relocate light head, photo eye or lamp fee of \$25.00 during normal business hours.

(b) The requesting party shall agree in writing that any poles, lights, or accessories placed upon his property shall remain the sole property of the city, and the city shall have the right to remove such equipment at any time fees are delinquent.

The 100 Watt HPS light that we currently charge \$10.25 for is rated at 9,400 lumens. The new LED's are rated at 8,330 lumens, however we know from experience that they are actually much brighter and the light broadcasts further. For reference, Clay Electric charges \$7.10 for a 5,000 lumen light and \$10.35 for a 17,000 lumen light.

Pending Council direction on whether or not to re-start the installation of security lights and direction on a fee structure, staff can prepare the appropriate ordinance to revise Section 90-61 of the City Code for approval in March.

FISCAL IMPACT

See above discussion regarding return on investment.

RECOMMENDATION

Subject to Council Direction.