

Over the last few years, our credit card fees have significantly increased, and that number is continuing to rise as more people tend to use their credit/debit cards versus using cash or checks. Most banks, credit unions, and prepaid cards are offering direct deposit up to 2 days early, and many of our customers are taking advantage of that and paying bills using those same cards. In a three month period we had an increase of 1400 customers using credit/debit to pay their utility bills compared to the same three months the previous year. We talked about a few options which are below.

-The City will continue to absorb the cost which could be roughly \$120,00-\$150,000 for the year.

-Charge 3% convenience fee across the board for all payments on Invoice Cloud & over the counter transactions using a credit/debit card.

I have included the number of transactions from over the counter (Bridgepay) and through Invoice Cloud.

Thank you in advance for all your help in this matter.