
CITY OF PORT LAVACA

COUNCIL MEETING: SEPTEMBER 9, 2024

AGENDA ITEM __

DATE: 09.08.2024

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

FROM: JODY WEAVER, INTERIM CITY MANAGER 

SUBJECT: PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE FEES & RATES FOR CHAPTER 54 WATERWAYS

BACKGROUND:

As reported to Council in August, a select committee of the Port Commission, myself and Jim Rudellat have been working since March to draft a comprehensive TARIFF document that covers not just fees, but rules and other regulations and practices of operations of our Ports & Harbors. After considering the comments/concerns about the draft Tariff document expressed by Helena and also recognizing that we need to give all our tenants plenty of time to provide feedback on the document, I believe we need to take more time to closely review the language proposed in the Tariff document and think through how it will affect existing and new tenants. I would also like to run it by a Marine Attorney before finalizing it and presenting it to Council for adoption.

However, because of the anticipated increase in transient traffic that is expected in the coming months and years, the Port Commission has expressed a need to include in the Chapter 54 Waterways rate schedule, **daily rates** to handle any situations of **FLEETING AND MOORING** AND **GENERAL DOCKAGE**, while we iron out the details of a tariff document..

The proposed rates are what the Port Commissioners have been discussing as part of the tariff document for several months. I am proposing these rates as part of a first reading to amend the Chapter 54 Waterways rates. The Port Commission will meet on September 17 and the agenda will include a formal vote regarding a recommendation to adopt these rates. The committee and I will continue to work on the tariff document and hope to have it ready and fully reviewed and vetted in the next couple of months.

Fleeting an Mooring and Dockage are common terms in the Ports & Harbors operations, but for clarity, the terms are defined in the draft Tariff document as follows:

- **DOCKAGE:** The charge assessed against a vessel for berthing at a wharf, pier, bulkhead or for mooring to a vessel so berthed.
- **FLEET:** The areas determined by CITY to be used for lay berth or services to vessels not engaged in cargo operation.
- **MOORING:** An act of making fast a boat with lines or anchors.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 1) Approve the first reading of an ordinance to change the Appendix A – fees, rates and charges for Chapter 54 Waterways to include daily rates for general dockage and fleeting and Mooring.

ATTACHED: Proposed ordinance