

**ORDINANCE TO
AMEND CHAPTER 76-10 OF THE
CITY OF WATERTOWN GENERAL ORDINANCES**

**SPONSOR: MAYOR ROBERT STOCKS
FROM: FINANCE COMMITTEE**

THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WATERTOWN DOES ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. §76-10 of the Watertown Code of Ordinances is hereby amended to read as follows:

§76-10 Service charge for tax-exempt residences

- A. **Statement of purpose.** Within the City there are many ~~fine~~ institutions ~~and organizations~~ such as ~~educational and faith-based establishments, private member organizations, and residential care homes for individuals with physical or mental disabilities.~~ ~~colleges, churches, nursing homes, private clubs, rest homes, old age homes, and homes for the mentally and/or physically handicapped.~~ ~~Most~~ **Many** of these institutions own single- or multiple- family residences for the benefit of their ~~staff.~~ ~~staffs.~~ The City provides ~~fire and police protection, snow removal, garbage collection and other~~ **a variety of** services to these residences, **including but not limited to police and fire protection.** These services are presently provided at no cost to these residences since they are exempt from real estate taxation, and therefore the cost of these services is paid by the non-tax-exempt property owners in the City. By the adoption of this section, it is hereby declared to be the public policy of the City that the tax-exempt residences referred to herein should pay a share of the cost of providing municipal services from which they benefit.
- B. **Property subject to service charge.** All tax-exempt single-family or multiple-family residences and ~~private member organizations~~ ~~private clubs~~ located within the City shall be subject to the service charge set forth in Subsection C. This service charge shall apply to all structures whose principal use is for residential housing, and structures for multiple usage incidental to the principal residential use and intended as housing, shall be subject to the service charge. Residential housing ~~that which~~ is partially exempt from taxation shall pay only a pro rata share of the service charge based upon the percentage of tax exemption.
- C. **Amount of service charge.** The annual service charge to be paid shall be **as set by Common Council and provided under a separate fee schedule.** ~~\$400 per residence or club, effective January 1, 1991.~~
- D. **Payment of service charge.** The City Treasurer shall mail a notice of the service charge to the owners of record of the property in question prior to June 1 of every year. After receipt of notice, payment shall be made in full to the City Treasurer on or before September 1 of any year, after which interest at 8% per annum will be charged.

SECTION 2. All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed.

SECTION 3. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force the day after its passage and publication.

<i>DATE:</i>				
<i>READING:</i>	<i>1ST</i>		<i>2ND</i>	
	<i>YES</i>	<i>NO</i>	<i>YES</i>	<i>NO</i>
DAVIS				
LAMPE				
BERG				
BARTZ				
BLANKE				
SMITH				
ARNETT				
WETZEL				
MOLDENHAUER				
MAYOR STOCKS				
<i>TOTAL</i>				

ADOPTED _____

CITY CLERK

APPROVED _____

MAYOR