

**Common Council
of the
City of Waukesha, Wisconsin
Resolution No. 2025 – _____**

**Resolution Creating and Setting Fees for Residential
Garbage and Recyclables Collection Services**

Whereas the City of Waukesha provides collection services for garbage and recyclables to residential properties in the City; and

Whereas the cost of providing such services is presently paid out of the City's property tax levy; and

Whereas Wisconsin's Levy Limit Law places a strict limit on the amount that the City's tax levy can increase each year; and

Whereas the cost of providing garbage and recyclables collection services has increased, and will continue to increase, at a rate higher than the Levy Limit Law foreseeably will allow the City's tax levy to increase, leading to unsustainable funding for such services; and

Whereas the City desires to continue providing garbage and recyclables collection services for the benefit of the health, safety, and welfare of the City's residents; and

Whereas garbage and recyclables collection services may be funded by a fee charged to residents instead of being funded by the tax levy; and

Whereas because garbage collection is a "covered service" under the Levy Limit Law, if the funding for that service is switched from the tax levy to a fee then the City's tax levy must be reduced by an amount attributable to fees collected for garbage collection services, subject to certain limits; and

Whereas garbage and recyclables collection services can only be sustained for the City's citizens if revenues for those services can be increased at a rate greater than the Levy Limit Law would otherwise allow; and

Whereas funding garbage and recyclables collection by a fee rather than through the tax levy is the most responsible way to ensure that vital garbage and recyclables collection services continue to be provided by the City;

Now therefore, the Common Council of the City of Waukesha do resolve as follows:

- 1.** Garbage and recyclables collection and disposal services provided by the City of Waukesha shall be funded by the imposition and collection of an annual fee, rather than by the property tax levy.

2. An annual fee for garbage and recyclables collection and disposal services is imposed on all properties receiving garbage and recyclables collection and disposal services provided by the City through contract with a private hauler.

3. The fee shall be charged to the owner of the property as shown in the City's tax records.

4. The fee shall be set annually by the Common Council by resolution, which shall also specify payment terms for each year. A public notice shall be published annually stating the fee amount and payment terms, including a due date. The notice shall be posted in three public places and published as a Class 1 notice in the Waukesha Freeman or successor official newspaper, no later than 21 days before the due date. Any fee payments that are not made by the due date shall automatically be added to the property tax bill as a special charge pursuant to Wis. Stat. §66.0627(2).

5. The fee shall not be payable in installments.

6. The initial fee shall be \$160, and shall be charged per each City-issued garbage cart for properties receiving Automated Service pursuant to Mun. Code §13.055(5), and \$160 per address for locations receiving Manual Service pursuant to Mun. Code §13.055(6).

7. The initial fee due date shall be October 29, 2025.

Passed and adopted the _____ day of _____, 2025.

Shawn N. Reilly, Mayor

Katie Panella, City Clerk