



CITY OF WAUKESHA

Administration

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Committee: Ordinance and License Committee	Date: 9/10/2018
Common Council Item Number:18-1305	Date: 9/18/2018
Submitted By: Miles Eastman—City Attorney’s Office	City Administrator Approval: Kevin Lahner, City Administrator
Finance Department Review: Rich Abbott, Finance Director	City Attorney’s Office Review: Brian Running, City Attorney
Subject: Create a New Ordinance in the City’s Traffic Code to Authorize Towing of Vehicles with at Least 5 Unpaid Parking Tickets	

Details:
 The State of Wisconsin recently passed a law authorizing municipalities to tow or immobilize with a “boot” vehicles that have at least 5 unpaid parking tickets. The City Attorney’s Office was already working with the Police Department on such an ordinance when the new statute was created. The proposed ordinance would allow the Police Department to tow vehicles with at least 5 unpaid parking tickets after providing written notice to the vehicle’s owner. Once a vehicle is towed, another notice is sent informing the owner where the vehicle is located and how to reclaim it. To get the vehicle back, the vehicle owner must: (1) pay the costs of towing; (2) pay the unpaid tickets or schedule an appearance on each ticket in Municipal Court; and (3) register the vehicle if it’s not already registered. Further information is set forth in the memo to O&L and Council.

Options & Alternatives:
 The ordinance must adopt all the requirements in the state statute, so the only other option is to not enact the ordinance.

Financial Remarks:
 Over the last (7) years, if this Ordinance was enacted, we would have towed an average of (9) vehicles per year. We currently pay \$35/tow X (9) vehicles would average around \$315 year in towing expenses passed through to the person in account 0100.23255.

Each citation per vehicle plus late fees etc. = \$80

\$80 x 5 cites per vehicle = \$400 per vehicle

(9) vehicles per year x \$400 per vehicle = \$3600 in potential increased revenue in account 7710.44120.

Executive Recommendation:
 Create Municipal Code §7.12 as detailed in attached materials.



Committee Recommendation:

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