



CITY OF WAUKESHA

Administration

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Committee: Board of Public Works	Date: 7/19/2018
Common Council Item Number: ID #18-1062	Date: 8/7/2018
Submitted By: Fred Abadi, Director of Public Works	City Administrator Approval: Kevin Lahner, City Administrator KL
Finance Department Review: Rich Abbott, Finance Director RA	City Attorney's Office Review: Brian Running, City Attorney BR
Subject: Review and act on the Chloride Sewer Use Ordinance Amendment.	

Details:
 The Clean Water Plant is required by DNR to reduce chlorides, which can be harmful to fish and aquatic life. In order to maintain compliance with our upcoming permit for both the Fox and Root River discharges, we must demonstrate significant chloride reduction over the next 5 years. The Plant's weekly average effluent chloride concentration currently ranges between 500 and 600 mg/L. The Fox River permit target is 440 mg/L, and the anticipated Root River permit limit is 400 mg/L.

The largest source of chloride (75%) is salt used in the regeneration of water softeners. Salt usage can be reduced by as much as 50% through softener optimization without any change in softened water quality. Our original chloride source reduction program was added to Chapter 29 in 2014. The proposed expansion of the program sets minimum performance standards for new or replacement softeners, requires all softeners to be optimized for salt usage, and provides the authority to conduct these optimizations. All softeners discharging to the City's collection system must be targeted for optimization if our chloride reduction goals are to be achieved.

Attachments:

1. Chapter 29 Chloride Source Reduction Program Amendment
2. Chapter 29 Right of Entry Amendment

Options & Alternatives:
 One alternative would be to ban softeners. However, the goal of the salt optimization approach is to allow softener users to continue having the benefits of soft water, while helping the City achieve chloride compliance.

Financial Remarks:
 The financial implications of the program are detailed in a separate agenda item which includes a proposed timetable and contracts with local water conditioning companies.

Executive Recommendation:
 Approve the proposed Chapter 29 chloride source reduction program amendment and refer it to the Ordinance & License Committee.

