



Agenda Item: Original Ordinance - 3rd Reading

Title: Original Ordinance No. 1938, to amend Chapter 13.52, Section 13.52.010 of the Laramie Municipal Code concerning Mosquito Control fees

Recommended Council MOTION:

I move that Council approve Original Ordinance No. 1938, on third and final reading to amend Chapter 13.52, Section 13.52.010 of the Laramie Municipal Code concerning Mosquito Control fees, increasing the monthly utility user fee from \$2.57 to \$4.89 with an effective date of April 1, 2016 and authorize the Mayor and Clerk to sign.

Administrative or Policy Goal:

City Council Goal: Maintain Laramie's Safe, Healthy Environment and Ensure Adequate Resources to Protect General Welfare.

Department Objective: The implementation of the City's 2010 West Nile Virus Protection Plan. Provide quality parks and recreation opportunities for residents and visitors to the City; Develop infrastructure to enhance existing parks and recreation facilities and amenities for residents and visitors to the City.

Background:

At the September 9, 2015 Parks, Tree and Recreation Advisory Board meeting, staff was directed to prepare multiple options for the Mosquito Control Program and potential outcomes. To this end, staff prepared eight (8) general options for consideration by the Parks, Tree and Recreation Advisory Board with public input on October 14, 2015. The intent was to gather feedback from the public and the Parks, Tree and Recreation Advisory Board on these options and narrow the field of eight (8) options to three (3) for staff to prepare estimate specifics on costs, efficacy and details on what the program would consist of with each option for consideration by Council.

On November 10, 2015 Council held a work session to discuss three potential options that were selected from a group of eight options recommended by the Parks, Tree, and Recreation Advisory Board. Council members debated the presented options and directed staff to develop a program that is more environmentally friendly than our current program without sacrificing our current efficacy on treated acres, along with the associated fee increase for their consideration.

On January 26, 2016 Council held a work session and public hearing to discuss and hear public comments on the Alternative Mosquito Control Program that would be supported by Original Ordinance No. 1983 concerning Mosquito Control fees, increasing the monthly utility user fee from \$2.57 to \$4.89 with an effective date of April 1, 2016. The **Mosquito Control Alternative Program** that retains efficacy on treated acres and increases the environmental friendliness of the Mosquito Control Program includes the following program elements:

- **The alternative program** would consist of ground based larval BTi applications and between one and seven (1-7) aerial larval treatments. Two of those treatments would be made using granular larvicides. The current program utilizes the same ground based larval applications and one (1) aerial larval application.

- **The alternative program** would consist of ground based fogging in town using a reduced risk insecticide and one aerial treatment outside the City limits with an organophosphate pesticide.
- **The alternative program** would include a contingency/emergency operations fund.

The specific details of the **alternative program** are as follows:

- **Ground based larval mosquito control:** Ground based larval control utilizing hand application equipment and ATV units would remain at the current level. This component provides larval control in urban areas and on smaller rural acreages. This program component will also continue to provide the mobility to accomplish surveillance for aerial operations and spot treatments in rural areas. No change in the current program is anticipated in this area. **This program component remains budget neutral.**

No change
No additional cost to the program
- **Aerial BTi larval control liquid:** The acres controlled with liquid larval aerial applications would increase in this plan from the current 3,790 acres annually to a maximum of 10,000 acres annually treated at optimum intervals to maximize efficacy. Aerial larval control with liquid Bti currently costs \$9.70 per acre. The current cost for the aerial BTi averages \$36,800. **An increase in BTi larval acres from 3,790 to 10,000 would require an additional \$60,250 annually.**

Additional Aerial Larval treatments
An additional \$60,250
- **Aerial larval control granular BTi:** Granular aerial larvicide applications are more expensive than liquid applications because of multiple factors including: the specialized application equipment, narrow swath width, and cost of the granular products. The estimated cost for the contractor to perform the application is \$8.00 per acre. The larval control product is estimated to cost \$18.00 per acre, for a total cost of \$26.00 per acre. Aerial granular larvicides are a new addition to the program. This application product is targeted to treat larvae in habitats that have heavy overgrowth of grasses or other plant material that cannot be penetrated with liquid formulations. Current equipment and staffing levels are appropriate to handle loading granular larvicides, and no change in the normal operations or schedule is anticipated. **Treatment of 3,000 acres with granular larvicide would require an additional \$78,000 annually.**

New: Aerial Granular Larval Treatments
An additional \$78,000
- **Ground based adult control (fogging):** The ground based adult control fogging operations would be altered to utilize Zenivex as the control agent replacing the current combination of Permethrin and Pipronyl butoxide (PBO.) Zenivex uses the active ingredient Etofenprox and is a member of the pyrethroid family but requires no Pipronyl Butoxide as a synergist to help the insecticide perform its function. Zenivex is currently in use in our program as the adult control agent used in the Casper Aquifer Protection Overlay area. Zenivex is recognized by the Environmental Protection Agency as a "Reduced Risk Pesticide." Over the past 3 years the program

New: Reduced Risk Adult Control Fogging Product
An additional \$46,000

utilized an average of 715 gallons of product at an average cost per gallon of \$16.92 for an annual total of \$12,000. 715 gallons of Zenivex at \$80.75 per gallon would cost \$57,800. The difference between the costs is approximately \$46,000. Current staffing and equipment are suitable for the application of Zenivex. **Replacement of the Permethrin + PBO with Zenivex would require an additional \$46,000 annually.**

- **Aerial Adult control:** The aerial adult control would remain at the current level. It should be noted that in order to maintain efficacy of approximately 95% on acres treated, the potential application of organophosphate pesticide is likely required and therefore essential. Currently, aerial application with Dibrom costs \$0.82 per acre for contractor application and 0.70 per acre for chemical for a total cost of \$1.52 per acre. Historically 15,360 acres are treated at a cost of \$23,350. **This program component remains budget neutral.**
- **Contingency/Emergency Operations Fund:** This additional option would be utilized to allow and permit immediate response to unforeseen conditions such as: late season adult vector control; impending West Nile Virus outbreak; severe flooding producing excess mosquito habitat; immediate need of additional provisional staff to mitigate conditions; etc. **Addition of a Contingency/Emergency Fund would require an additional \$25,000 annually.**
- **Capital/Equipment Fund:** The current (FY2015/16) Mosquito Control budget includes \$40,915 in replacement capital and equipment. Over the past 5 fiscal years, the capital and equipment budget for the Mosquito Control Program has averaged \$53,000 per fiscal year. With the addition of the Contingency/Emergency Operations Fund, the Capital/Equipment Fund could be reduced to approximately \$27,000 per fiscal year to provide a sustainable funding source, based upon the projected Mosquito Control fee increase to fund the Mosquito Control capital and equipment needs in the future.

No Change
No additional cost to the

Contingency/
Emergency
Fund
An additional \$25,000

No additional cost to program when combined with Contingency/Emergency Operations Fund

The alternative program would require a total expense budget of \$634,250 to incorporate the more environmentally friendly control agents and application methods while maintaining the same efficacy on treated acres.

At the direction of previous Councils, the Mosquito Control expense operations should be wholly supported and offset with utility account fees, cooperative agreements, and grant revenue. With this being the case, to support the **alternative program** options the following revenue streams are required to support the operational expense:

Utility account fee at \$4.89 per month based upon 9,100 accounts:	\$533,988
Cooperative Agreement with Albany County Weed and Pest:	\$ 40,000
Emergency Insect Management Grant for WNV prevention:	<u>\$ 60,000</u>
Total Mosquito Control Program revenue required:	\$633,988

The **alternative program** would require a monthly fee of \$4.89 based on 9,100 households. The current monthly mosquito control fee is \$2.57. To fund the **alternative program** with more environmentally friendly pesticides while maintaining the current program efficacy, would result in a 90% increase in the monthly mosquito control fee.

Formulating the budget for this **alternative program** assumes the continued availability of grant funding to the City through the Wyoming Department of Agriculture; Emergency Insect Management Grant program. This program is currently supported in Governor Mead’s preliminary state budget but has not been approved by the full legislature. If this program is not renewed, the City would need to make up approximately \$60,000 annually in funds directly related to the prevention of West Nile virus. This would result in an additional fee of \$0.55 per user, per month.

On February 17, 2016 I received a comment from a Ray Robertson who requested that he would like to see the efficacy of the mosquito control program as high as possible, and the most effective mosquito control program possible regardless of the types of pesticides used for public health concerns. He noted that an effective mosquito control program, along with the reduction of risk for WNV is critical for people with compromised immune systems.

Legal/Statutory Authority:

Chapter 13.52, Section 13.52.010 of the Laramie Municipal Code

BUDGET/FISCAL INFORMATION:

REVENUE

Mosquito Control Fee	\$533,988.00	based upon 9,100 utility account users
Intergovernmental Agreements	\$40,000.00	Agreement with Albany County Weed and Pest Control
Grants for the Program	\$60,000.00	Emergency Insect Management Grant for WNV
Total	\$633,988.00	

EXPENSE

Proposed Project Cost.

Program Budget	Amount	Funds
Current Budget	\$397,663.00	Mosquito Control Operational Budget
Alternative Program Budget (additional)	\$236,587.00	Alternative Program elements including additional aerial larval liquid Bti, additional aerial granular Bti, ground based fogging with Zenivex, contingency emergency operations fund, and capital and equipment replacement funds.
Total Amount	\$634,250.00	

Future dates are subject to change

Introduction/1 st Reading	February 2, 2016
Public Hearing	February 16, 2016
2 nd Reading	February 16, 2016
3 rd Reading	March 1, 2016

Attachments: Original Ordinance No. 1938

Responsible Staff: Paul Harrison, Parks and Recreation Director at 721-5260, Todd Feezer, Assistant Director of Parks and Recreation at 721-5348.

_____ City Manager _____ City Attorney _____ **Parks & Recreation**

ORIGINAL ORDINANCE NO.:1938
ENROLLED ORDINANCE NO.:

INTRODUCED BY: HENRY

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 13.52, SECTION 13.52.010 OF THE LARAMIE MUNICIPAL CODE TO ADJUST THE MOSQUITO CONTROL FEE

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LARAMIE

Section 1: Section 13.52.010 of the Laramie Municipal Code is amended to read as follows:

There is assessed to the account of each utility user, whether such account relates to service inside or outside the corporate limits, a charge of ~~two dollars and fifty-seven~~ **FOUR DOLLARS AND EIGHTY NINE** cents per month per account, payable in advance, commencing ~~July 1, 2010~~ **APRIL 1, 2016**, for mosquito control. The monthly charge shall be billed and payable with the city's regular utility account billings. (Prior code § 12-8; Ord. 1097 § 1, 1993; Ord. 1275 § 1, 1999; Ord. No. 1537, § 1, 10-21-2008; Ord. No. 1582, § 1, 4-20-2010)

Section 2: This ordinance is effective April 1, 2016.

Passed and approved this _____ day of _____, 2016.

David A. Paulekas, Mayor and President of the
City Council

Attest: _____
Angie Johnson
City Clerk

First Reading: February 2, 2016
Public Hearing: February 16, 2016
Second Reading: February 16, 2016
Third and Final Reading: March 1, 2016

Duly published in the Laramie Daily Boomerang this _____ day of _____, 2016