

Keri Dodson

From: Kelly Roberts <krobertsf@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 2, 2022 8:50 PM
To: Jeff Britz
Subject: Public Comment Re: June 21, 2022 Public Hearing on Rate Change for Refuse Collection

Mr. Britz,

Please accept the following as my public comment regarding the proposed rate increase for refuse collection charges, in response to the notice received in my recent water utility bill:

I oppose the rate increase. As a single person renting in Templeton, I already pay extremely high, disproportionate rates for water and sewage utilities relative to my actual usage. The proposed rate increase would disproportionately impact me. I currently pay for the smallest trash and recycling plan available, yet rarely fill half of my bin. I am already paying nearly \$300-\$400 per month in utilities in order to rent in this town, with no family and with extremely minimal utility usage. If the rates for refuse collection increase, I will be further disproportionately impacted.

As a single professional who rents in Templeton, I am voicing my objection to the proposed rate increase.

Kind regards,

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6-20-22

Board of Directors

Templeton Community Services District

I write in protest to the proposed increased rates for refuse collection Resolution 11-2022.

As I communicated to the Board in June of 2021, I felt that combining (using) “excess” Solid Waste Franchise Fees was not consistent with the rules, laws and current TCSD ordinance 2001-1 which stated in part,

All franchise fees collected by the district's authorized franchisee for the collection or disposal of garbage or refuse matter within the district boundaries shall be deposited into a restricted account with such funds only being used for the purposes that reasonably relate to providing for the collection or disposal of garbage or refuse matter and solid waste enforcement consistent with LAFCO Res. No. 2000-8 within the district boundaries.

The current Board then adopted Ordinance 2021-4 to merge the Solid Waste fund with the Parks and Recreation funds. The staff report for Ordinance 2021-4 stated tat “the Board was interested in using Franchise Fees revenue that was used in excess of current Solid Waste expenses and activities to assist with the ongoing Parks and Recreation deficit.”

Resolution 11-2022 indicates that the raising the rates, in part is due to;

“the fee(s) imposed on haulers by the San Luis Obispo Integrated Waste Management Authority (IWMA). IWMA has raised the hauler fee from 2% (or \$.30 a month for residential accounts under \$50) to 5.4% across the board effective July 1, 2022. This increases the monthly rate for services by \$1.63 for 32-gallon residential customers, \$2.42 for 65-gallon residential customers, and by \$1.95 for 95- gallon residential customers. It also raises the cost of service for commercial customers \$4.18 – \$41.23 per month, depending on the size and frequency of their bin service.”

Based on the staff report, the proposed rate increase will generate an additional \$12,000 in Franchise Fees to the District. As mentioned in my letter dated of June of 2021 (protesting using the Franchise Fees for anything other than for what it was intended);

The community pays a portion of their bill from Mid State to the franchise fund. In most residential bills that amounts to approximately \$6.00 a month. By adopting this ordinance (2021-4) to transfer Solid Waste Franchise Fees to Parks and Recreation without any outreach or education of the public is at the very least a violation of the public trust. Simply saying it was done in an advertised public meeting is disingenuous, at best.

At the very least the Board should apply the \$12,000 increase in Franchise Fees to offset the cost increases of the IWMA fees and implementation of SBA 1383 as both would have been appropriate use of the fees under the original ordinance 2001-1.

As I will be unable to participate in the Board meeting on June 21st, I respectfully ask that this communication be summarized to the Board and be part of the public record.

Respectfully submitted,

Greg O'Sullivan

P.S. I hope the Board uses this opportunity to delete the Evergreen Clause in the current contract with Mid-State.