

# SULTAN CITY COUNCIL

## AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

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**Item #** Consent C 3

**Date:** February 28, 2007

**SUBJECT:** Public Works Committee – Request for Relief on Excess Charges

**CONTACT PERSON:** Laura J. Koenig, Clerk/Deputy Finance Director

**SUMMARY STATEMENT:** The Public Works Committee has met and reviewed the attached request from relief of excess utility charges in accordance with the current adopted Council policy. All accounts were notified of the leaks and repairs were done within the time period requested.

**FISCAL IMPACTS:** estimated on attached sheets

**RECOMMENDATION:** Approve the recommendations of the Public Works Committee for relief from excess charges

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**COUNCIL ACTION:**

**Action Date:**

# UTILITY COMMITTEE MEETING

## February 7, 2008

### APPROVED VIA COMMITTEE

#### **107 High Avenue, Sultan**

RE: Relief of Excess = \$200.08

#### **105 8<sup>th</sup> Street**

RE: relief of excess = \$200.44

#### **310 Main Street**

RE: Excess Relief - Revisit at request of C/M Blair, Wiediger

*Approved for additional \$457.76*

In December 2007 the utility committee stated the owner needed to take responsibility for access to water by outside sources. The committee voted to split the difference of excess water with the business owner. After review committee felt business could not have possibly used that much water and that theft was a viable option, police report requested to be filed and all remaining excess charges okayed to be written off.

### DENIED VIA COMMITTEE

#### **614 Alder Avenue**

Requesting relief of \$853.31

*Denied: Services were used and committee considered relief a gift of public funds*

Requestor took ownership January 2007 with a prior balance not covered by escrow. In addition a renter racked up billings to bring to current amount. Requesting relief as repairs to the property to clean it up cost over \$12,000. NOTE: Home has now sold and escrow covered this balance. Any credit would be in the form of a refund.

#### **33108 132<sup>nd</sup> St SE**

RE: Policy issue regarding garbage service

*Under review to see how other cities handle this issue.*

This is a garbage only account with last payment received December 2006. Service is mandatory; no policy on what to do when account unpaid. Unable to place a lien per the city attorney, would be through small claims court. Auditor suggesting a dollar amount when that should take place.

#### **317 Walbrun Road**

RE: Policy issue regarding vacant home

*Denied: Ordinance states all services mandatory/option available to turn it off and suspend service.*

Vacant since March 2007; Owner requesting relief of sewer/garbage/recycling; All services mandatory; Policy issue as ordinance does not address vacant home when water left on.

#### **1113 & 1115 Sunny Ridge Lane**

Policy issue regarding vacant home

*Denied: Ordinance states all services mandatory – acknowledge two units on one meter, possibility in future of separating into two meters, no way to separate currently.*

This is a duplex, two homes on one water meter; half of the home is vacant and they are requesting relief of sewer/garbage/recycling; All services are mandatory and the water cannot be disconnected to the vacant unit. Policy issue as ordinance does not address vacant homes.