



# COUNCIL WORK SESSION

Wednesday, September 18, 2024 at 2:00 PM

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## COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Mayor Rick Scholl  
Council President Jessica Chilton  
Councilor Mark Gundersen  
Councilor Russell Hubbard  
Councilor Brandon Sundeen

## LOCATION & CONTACT:

HYBRID: Council Chambers & Zoom (details below)  
Website | [www.sthelensoregon.gov](http://www.sthelensoregon.gov)  
Email | [kpayne@sthelensoregon.gov](mailto:kpayne@sthelensoregon.gov)  
Phone | 503-397-6272  
Fax | 503-397-4016

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## AGENDA

### CALL WORK SESSION TO ORDER

**VISITOR COMMENTS** - *Limited to three (3) minutes per speaker*

**DISCUSSION TOPICS** - *The Council will take a break around 4:00PM*

1. 2:10PM - Employee Length of Service Recognition: Sergeant Jon Eggers - 25 Years
2. 2:15PM - Report from Columbia Economic Team (CET) - *Executive Director Paul Vogel*
3. 2:35PM - Review Proposed Rates Increases for Waste Management Drop Box Services - *City Administrator John Walsh*
4. 2:45PM - Discussion Regarding Directional Signage on Columbia River Highway
5. 3:05PM - Request for Donation to Merchants' Toy N Joy Auction
6. 3:15PM - Assignment of Voting Delegate and Alternate for LOC Business Meeting
7. 3:25PM - Report from City Administrator John Walsh

### ADJOURN

### EXECUTIVE SESSION

*Following the conclusion of the Council Work Session, an Executive Session is scheduled to take place to discuss:*

- *Real Property Transactions, under ORS 192.660(2)(e); and*
- *Consult with Counsel/Potential Litigation, under ORS 192.660(2)(h).*

*Representatives of the news media, staff and other persons as approved, shall be allowed to attend the Executive Session. All other members of the audience are asked to leave the Council Chambers.*

### FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Upcoming Dates to Remember:

- September 18, 2:00PM, Council Work Session, Council Chambers/Zoom
- September 18, 6:15PM, Council Public Hearing, Council Chambers/Zoom
- September 18, 7:00PM, Council Regular Session, Council Chambers/Zoom
- September 25, 4:00PM, Joint Council/Planning Commission, Council Chambers/Zoom

Future Public Hearing(s)/Forum(s):

- PH: September 18, 6:15PM, Development Code Amendments (City)

**VIRTUAL MEETING DETAILS**

Join: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84230013253?pwd=ImO2QlbV4AUPrGQqQ8aRDkED4gkGYI.1>

Passcode: 618625

Dial: +17193594580

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The meeting location is accessible to persons with disabilities. A request for an interpreter for the hearing impaired or for other accommodations for persons with disabilities should be made at least 48 hours before the meeting to City Hall at 503-397-6272.

Be a part of the vision and get involved...volunteer for a City Board or Commission! For more information or for an application, go to [www.sthelensoregon.gov](http://www.sthelensoregon.gov) or call 503-366-8217.

# LENGTH OF SERVICE RECOGNITION



To: Mayor and City Council

From: Kathy Payne, Human Resources Coordinator/City Recorder

Date: September 18, 2024

I am happy to announce that we have one employee who has reached a milestone in their employment with the City of St. Helens. The following individual will be recognized at the September 18 Work Session.

## **25 Years**

**Jon Eggers** began working for the City of St. Helens in September 1999 as a Police Officer. He was promoted to Sergeant in July of 2019. Over the course of his 25 years, Jon has also worked as a Police K-9 Handler. Sgt. Eggers has served the citizens well over these 25 years and is very well-respected by staff and the community. With his dedicated 25 years of service, Eggers will be retiring from the St. Helens Police Department at the end of September. We wish him nothing but the best in his future endeavors!

**Congratulations Jon** and **thank you** for your service!



August 29, 2024

John Walsh  
City Administrator  
City of St. Helens  
265 Strand Street  
St Helens, OR 97051  
[jwalsh@ci.st-helens.or.us](mailto:jwalsh@ci.st-helens.or.us)

Re: 2024 Inflation Adjustment

Please find the enclosed 2024 rate schedule for garbage drop box collection services provided by WM to the City of St. Helens.

These rates are based upon the published Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers: Water and Sewer and Trash Collection Services, or successor index ("CPI"), July to July, as published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor. This year's index changes are described on the attached page. The annual change is an increase of 4.533%. Per our contract, WM is allowed 50% of this annual change not to exceed 1.5% which results in a 1.5% increase.

Please review this schedule and let me know of any discrepancies as WM will adjust our billing system to reflect these changes effective October 1, 2024.

WM looks forward to providing quality garbage drop box collection services to the City of St. Helens in the years ahead.

Sincerely,

**KELLY EMERSON**  
Contract Compliance Administrator  
Public Sector, Pacific Northwest  
[kemerson@wm.com](mailto:kemerson@wm.com)

**Waste Management - Columbia County Operations**  
**St. Helens - Rates for Drop Box Services**  
**As of October 1, 2024**

	CPI 1.50% 10/1/2023	CPI 1.50% 10/1/2024
10 Yard Drop Box Haul	\$ 140.12	\$ 142.22
20 Yard Drop Box Haul	\$ 147.12	\$ 149.32
30 Yard Drop Box Haul	\$ 154.87	\$ 157.19
40 Yard Drop Box Haul	\$ 154.87	\$ 157.19
Compactor Haul	\$ 294.99	\$ 299.41
Rental Per Day - All sizes	\$ 4.69	\$ 4.76
Rental Per Month - All sizes	\$ 94.38	\$ 95.79
Mileage - All sizes	\$ 1.84	\$ 1.86
Disposal Rate/Ton	\$ 106.12	\$ 109.94
<b>Plus franchise fee added to total monthly charge:</b>	7%	7%

Effective 11/19/2020

**Section 6. Franchise Fee.** In consideration of the rights, privileges and franchise herein granted, Franchise Holder shall pay an annual franchise fee to the City equal to Seven percent (7%) of Franchise Holder's annual Gross Receipts. Franchise fees shall be paid on a quarterly basis and are due and payable within thirty (30) days of the end of each quarter. Annually, and no later than ninety (90) days following the close of Franchise Holder's fiscal year, Franchise Holder shall submit a written report to the City Administrator, that includes:

- a) a summary of Franchise Holder's previous year's customers, services provided, and new services, if any; and
- b) a calculation of Franchise Holder's Gross Receipts and the amount of franchise fees paid to the City during Franchise Holder's previous fiscal year.

**Section 7. Rates.** The rates to be charged for collection of Solid Waste under this Franchise are set forth at **Exhibit A** attached hereto, as the same shall be adjusted, during the term of this Franchise, in accordance with Sections 8 and 9 below.

**Section 8. Annual Rate Adjustments.** The rates shall be adjusted on October 1, 2021 and annually thereafter, by a percentage equal to one-half of the annual percent change in the average *Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers: Water and Sewer and Trash Collection Services*, or successor index ("CPI"), July to July, for West-C, all items (1982-84 = 100), (Series CUUR0000SEHG, CUUS0000SEHG), as published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, not seasonally adjusted, and not to exceed one and one-half percent (1.5%) (<http://www.bls.gov/cpi/home.htm>) for the 12-month period ending nearest, but at least SIXTY (60) days prior to, each annual adjustment date. Franchise Holder shall notify the City of any rate adjustments hereunder at least THIRTY (30) days in advance, provided however, that Franchise Holder's failure to notify the City of such rate adjustments prior to the annual adjustment date shall not waive Franchise Holder's right to adjust rates at any time thereafter. Adjustments to the rates shall be made in units of one cent (\$0.01). Fractions less than one cent (\$0.01) will not be considered in calculating adjustments. Annual CPI adjustments shall not be negative. If the CPI index series decreases year-on-year, no CPI adjustment will occur.

**Section 9. Other Rate Adjustments.** Franchise Holder may at any time request a rate revision whenever a significant change in revenue or expenses occurs or is anticipated, or in the event of Uncontrollable Circumstances (see Section 15). In the event Franchise Holder requests a rate revision, the City shall consider such request in good faith and shall act upon the request without undue delay, but in no case later than SIXTY (60) days from the date the request was made. In determining reasonable rates, the City Council shall consider all relevant factors, and the City and Franchise Holder shall work in good faith to develop and adjust the rates, as necessary, to allow Franchise Holder to earn a reasonable rate of return. The City agrees that it shall not unreasonably withhold its consent or unreasonably delay a rate review request submitted by Franchise Holder.

**Consumer Price Index - All Urban Consumers**  
**Original Data Value**

**Series Id:** CUUR0000SEHG,CUUS0000SEHG  
**Not Seasonally**  
**Series Title:** Water and sewer and trash collection services in U.S. city average, all urban consumers, not seasonally adjusted  
**Area:** U.S. city average  
**Item:** Water and sewer and trash collection services  
**Base Period:** DECEMBER 1997=100

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	HALF1	HALF2	% of Change	0.50% of change	Not to exceed 1.5%
2011	175.754	177.194	177.694	178.033	178.521	178.640	179.820	180.762	181.569	181.916	182.254	182.758					
2012	183.984	185.499	186.280	187.473	187.788	188.489	189.750	191.927	191.833	192.370	192.921	193.237					
2013	194.553	195.505	195.981	196.319	196.727	196.989	198.173	198.736	198.804	199.759	200.004	200.203					
2014	201.169	202.149	202.657	203.084	203.124	203.396	205.022	206.171	206.363	207.633	208.562	209.414					
2015	210.243	211.397	211.738	212.153	212.542	212.863	213.873	215.844	216.173	216.380	217.004	217.386					
2016	218.370	219.036	219.649	220.506	221.360	221.396	221.358	222.554	223.111	223.420	224.399	224.745					
2017	226.411	227.277	227.553	228.133	228.396	228.599	229.008	229.772	230.142	230.614	231.522	231.842					
2018	232.977	233.858	234.215	235.141	235.878	236.493	237.186	238.439	238.512	238.936	241.774	242.204	234.760	239.509			
2019	241.606	242.011	242.611	243.49	243.774	244.322	244.943	245.549	245.903	246.741	247.364	247.567	242.969	246.345			
2020	248.846	249.751	250.359	250.673	250.921	251.435	252.401	253.974	254.266	254.781	255.65	256.456	250.331	254.588	3.045%	1.522%	1.500%
2021	257.722	258.763	259.204	259.581	259.542	260.4	261.706	262.81	263.747	264.278	264.58	265.365	259.202	263.748	3.687%	1.843%	1.500%
2022	268.128	269.521	269.621	270.419	270.844	271.925	273.097	274.984	276.759	276.892	277.824	278.464	270.076	276.337	4.353%	2.176%	1.500%
2023	281.461	283.663	284.166	285.052	286.322	287.457	289.005	290.975	291.279	291.683	292.694	292.915	284.687	291.425	5.825%	2.913%	1.500%
2024	297.079	298.751	299.183	300.178	299.987	300.652	302.106						299.305		4.533%	2.267%	1.500%

**From:** [Merchants Toy N Joy Auction Team](#)  
**To:** [Kathy Payne](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Save The Date! 42nd Annual Merchants Toy N Joy Auction  
**Date:** Wednesday, September 4, 2024 10:50:20 AM

## An important message from Merchants' Toy N Joy Auction.

Greetings to you, Friends of the Merchants' Toy N Joy Auction:

It is that time of year when the elves of the Toy N Joy Auction committee start looking ahead to our annual holiday fundraiser.

Thanks to the support of all our volunteers, merchants, organizations and individuals, the annual Toy N Joy Auctions have raised and distributed over \$800,000 throughout the past 41 holiday seasons! Funds raised have contributed to Columbia River Fire & Rescue Volunteers' Toy N Joy Program, Scappoose Care & Share, St. Helens Kiwanis' Holiday Hope, Community Action Team and Columbia Pacific Food Bank. Christmas toys and food baskets are distributed each December to families throughout CRFR's service district which stretches from Rainier to Warren.

The 2023 Annual Merchant's Toy N Joy Ugly Christmas Sweater Party Auction was a tacky, classy, and successful event raising over \$70,000 for our community between the online auction, the in-person event, and donations. **THANK YOU** for your support of our organization which in turn helps our community.

Reflecting on the origin of the angel trees that pop up before the holiday and the reason why we work diligently to host this event, this year's theme is Paper Angels. Don your finest attire (whether it be denim and boots or a gown and pearls) and join us for an elegant evening full of fun and friendly bidding competition. The dinner, silent and live auctions, will be held on Saturday, December 7th at the Columbia County Fairgrounds.

We will have online auction opportunities during the weeks leading up to the live event and look forward to sharing more information about the auction and availability of tickets with you soon.

We have a lot of work to do to help fund holiday food baskets and toys for the local kids and families during the upcoming holiday season. This is where you come in. We will only be able to host a successful event if we receive your generosity through donation(s), your time or both, as these are key component to this fundraiser. The last several years our successful online auctions were so much fun for participants who want to participate but are unable to attend our in-person event or those who want to enjoy both; the online auction and the event. Some items will be online only, and other items will be live only. Raffle tickets will be available online first and if there are tickets available at the live event, we will continue to sell them until sold out.

We wish to extend to you an opportunity to participate in our 42nd Annual Merchants' Toy N Joy Auction. Use the following link [Your Personal Link](#) to find out more on how you can provide one or more of the following:

- A gift certificate from any local business
- Item for gift baskets for either our raffle, live, or online auction
- A bottle of wine to be part of our live event.



- Cash or check (either for us to purchase gift certificates for the auction or as a straight donation)
- Your involvement in planning or working at the event on December 7th

Best to you  
Mindy Sass, President  
Merchants' Toy N Joy Auction

NOTE: Please do not forward this email. Your Personal Link is tied to YOUR account.

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