ORDINANCE NO. 15-18

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 157 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES RELATING TO STORM WATER UTILITY AND PROVIDING FOR FEES AND PENALTIES.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MARION, IOWA:

Section 1. Section 157.09 of the Code of Ordinances is amended by deleting subsection 6 and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

6. Maximum Charge. The maximum charges for any customer charged a fee shall be one ERU, multiplied by the numerical factor obtained by dividing the total square footage of impervious area of the property by the square footage of one ERU, rounded to the nearest one-tenth (0.1), plus a per account service charge, in the absence of a credit or adjustment approved by the City Engineer. The fee shall not exceed $156.80 per contiguous parcel account following the application of a credit or adjustment.

Section 2. Section 157.10 of the Code of Ordinances is amended by deleting subsection 1. A. and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

A. ERU Rate. The storm water utility ERU charge rate is hereby established to be $1.59 per month per ERU.

Section 3. Section 157.10 of the Code of Ordinances is amended by deleting subsection 1. B. and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

B. Service Charge. The storm water utility service charge is hereby established to be $3.33 per month per account.

Section 4. Chapter of the Code of Ordinances is amended by adding the following subsection:

157.14 RESIDENTIAL STORM WATER REBATES. Storm water runoff from residential properties can pick up pollutants such as lawn fertilizer, pet waste, and trash, and carry those into storm sewers, creeks, and rivers. Storm water Best Management Practices - or BMPs - such as rain gardens, rain barrels, and soil quality restoration can be used in residential yards to capture storm water where it falls and allow for it to infiltrate into the ground. Methods exist to improve the quality of storm water runoff and increase local awareness of the importance of
protecting our local streams and lakes. The City has therefore created a Residential Cost-Sharing Program to provide for Storm water Best Management Practices Rebates to assist in the promotion of such methods to capture and infiltrate storm water in residential areas.


   A. Rain Garden. Shallow depressions that contain permeable soils and native plants where rain water is collected from yards and downspouts. Rain water collected is for absorption by the roots of the native plants and also naturally infiltrates into the earth. The rebate for a rain garden would be up to $400 to include actual associated costs upon installation of associated improvements with a limit of a onetime rebate per residence.

   B. Rain Barrel. Used for collecting rain water from roofs and downspouts. This water can then be used to water plants, gardens, lawns, or even for flushing toilets. The rebate for a rain barrel would be up to $50 per rain barrel to include actual associated costs upon installation of associated equipment with a limit of a onetime rebate per residence.

   C. Lawn Soil Improvement. Soil quality restoration is a simple but effective way to improve the ability of lawns to absorb rainwater. A process of soil aeration and compost application improves the root systems of lawn grass and allows for better rainwater absorption. The rebate for soil quality restoration would be up to $350 upon completion of improvements to include actual associated costs with a limit of a onetime rebate per residence.

2. Stormwater Best Management Application.

   A. Rain Garden Rebate application must be completed and approved by the Engineering Department and requires submittal of a detailed plan prior to applicant initiating rain garden installation.

   B. Rain Barrel application must be completed and approved by the Engineering Department prior to purchase of equipment by the applicant.

   C. Lawn Soil Improvement Rebate application must be completed and approved by the Engineering Department and requires submittal of a detailed plan prior to applicant initiating lawn soil quality
improvements.

D. Applications for rebates, upon receipt, will be reviewed by City staff within 15 days.

3. Storm water Best Management Funding and Program Maintenance.

A. City will provide an annual maximum funded amount ($5,000 FY 15/16) for the support of the program participation.

B. City shall maintain a GIS Mapping Data Base and Inspection Program of all locations of residential storm water BMP projects installed as part of this program.

Passed and approved this 6th day of August, 2015.

Snooks Bouska, Mayor

ATTEST:

Wesley A. Nelson, City Clerk

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
The undersigned City Clerk of Marion, Iowa certifies that the ordinance shown immediately above was published in the Marion Times on the 21st day of August, 2015.

Wes Nelson
City Clerk