

ARTICLE 347

Municipal Claims for Delinquent Accounts -
Schedule of Attorneys Fees to be Added

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347.01 Statement of Policies. In all matters where the City undertakes recovery efforts by legal proceedings or otherwise, to collect unpaid taxes, unpaid water/sewer accounts and other municipal claims, liens and accounts, the cost of attorneys fees, together with all other charges, expenses, fees and costs incurred, shall be added to the total payable with respect to such unpaid taxes, unpaid water/sewer accounts and other unpaid municipal claims, liens and accounts.

347.02 Schedule of Fees.

- (a) Subject to revision from time to time, the City hereby approves the following schedule of attorney fees for services rendered in connection with the collection of unpaid taxes, unpaid water/sewer accounts, unpaid municipal claims, liens and accounts, which is hereby determined to be fair and reasonable compensation for the services set forth below:
 - (i) In matters for which a private attorney has been retained by the Office of the City Solicitor on a non-contingency fee basis, attorneys fees as follows:

<u>Legal Services</u>	<u>Fee for Services</u>
Initial review and sending first Demand letter	\$150.00
File lien and mailing second Demand letter	\$150.00

<u>Legal Services</u>	<u>Fee for Services</u>
Prepare Writ of Scire Facias	\$150.00
Re-issue Writ	\$ 25.00
Prepare and mail letter under Pa.R.C.P. §237.1	\$ 25.00
Prepare Motion for Alternate Service	\$175.00
Prepare Motion for Summary Judgment and related Judgment	\$175.00
Prepare Writ of Execution	\$750.00
Attendance at Sale; Review Schedule of Distribution and Resolve Distribution Issues	\$400.00

Services not covered above - An hourly rate to be determined by the City Solicitor ranging from \$85.00 to \$225.00 per hour.

(ii) In matters for which a private attorney has been retained by the Office of the City Solicitor on a contingency fee basis, the contingency fee shall not exceed twenty percent (20%) of the delinquent claim.

(iii) The Office of the City Solicitor shall have authority to determine whether a matter shall be handled on a contingency fee basis or a non-contingent fee basis.

(b) There shall be added to the above amounts the reasonable out-of-pocket expenses of counsel and the City in connection with each of these services, as itemized in the applicable counsel bills, which shall be deemed to be part of the costs.

(c) The amount of fees determined as set forth above shall be added to the City's claim in each Account.

347.03 Collection Procedures. The City shall comply with any procedures for collection specified in the statutes of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

347.04 Related Action. The proper officials of the City are hereby authorized and empowered to take such additional action as they may deem necessary or appropriate to implement this Ordinance.

(Ord. 3988 - Passed 12/21/99.)