

**CITY COUNCIL
COMMUNICATION:**

98-484

AGENDA:

OCTOBER 26, 1998

SUBJECT:

**GOLF FEES AND
CHARGES POLICY, 1999
SEASON**

TYPE:

**RESOLUTION
ORDINANCE
RECEIVE/FILE**

SUBMITTED BY:

**DONALD TRIPP
PARK AND
RECREATION
DIRECTOR**

ITEM _____

**OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER
CITY OF DES MOINES, IOWA**

SYNOPSIS —

Request approval of revised golf fees and charges policy for the 1999 golf season.

FISCAL IMPACT -

\$110,000 estimated new revenues based upon an average of 105,000 rounds.

RECOMMENDATION -

Approval.

BACKGROUND -

The Citizens Golf Committee of the Park and Recreation Board annually reviews and revises, as necessary, the golf fees and charges policy. On September 2 and 7, 1998, the Committee deliberated at length on needed changes in the policy. With the exception of raising the Junior Badge for youth from \$80 to \$100, the fees and charges policy has not been changed for three seasons.

Because employee salaries have increased (10 percent) over the three-year period, and equipment and supply costs have also risen, the Committee decided that an increase in golf fees would be in order to maintain a budget that would generate a net revenue after expenses. An increase was also recommended because other comparable public golf courses in the Des Moines area were already higher priced than the City's courses. The proposed increases allow the City courses to maintain the lowest public golf prices in the Des Moines area. Coupled with the excellent condition of the City's

courses, the proposed policy provides a strong incentive for attendance at the City courses by golfers from both within and without the Des Moines area.

Attached is a summary of the proposed fee changes. In addition, the following three operational changes are recommended:

- 1) A "senior" golfer will be anyone who is 62 years of age or older (previously 65).
- 2) Senior golfers (62 years of age and older) who own a golf cart will be permitted to register it for use on any of the City's three golf courses (previously, no further cart registrations were permitted).
- 3) All golf leagues with fewer than 150 participants will be required to pay the full season league fee in advance (previously varied among several leagues).

Both fees and operational changes were approved by the Park and Recreation Board, Resolution No. 98-204 at its October 13, 1998, meeting.